

# Ignite

For BlueStone 2009











# The Bluestone

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2009

*The Bluestone*, Volume 100  
The Yearbook of James Madison University  
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# ISNite

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Photo by Anna Abell

Behind every effect there is a cause. With every action there is a reaction. Change appears everywhere - on a personal level, across the university's campus and in the greater realm of society. Whether it was through community service, concern for the environment or self-development, students and faculty worked together to make a difference throughout the community.

D-Hall and Mrs. Greens eliminated trays to conserve water, University Unions announced a new three-year leadership program for incoming freshmen and all spaces were filled in Community Service Learning's spring Alternative Break Programs. Students actively sought opportunities to grow as individuals while helping others, and the effect was unmistakable.

We are constantly changing, constantly growing and constantly igniting. How have you effected change in your life this year?

**POSING** for a picture, Ms. Madison winner senior Chiquita King accepts her award from President Linwood H. Rose, with his wife there to support him. The ceremony took place during halftime of the Homecoming football game, where senior Andy Gibson was awarded Mr. Madison as well.

*Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



**PACKED** into the Convocation Center, university members and Harrisonburg residents rally for President Barack Obama. Almost 10,000 people crowded in, though the Convo usually only held 7,000. For potential audience members who could not fit in the Convo, Obama spoke shortly on the UREC turf.

*Photo by Timmy Austen*




**MASTERS** of ceremonies for the joint end-of-semester concert for a cappella groups Exit 245 and The BluesTones, senior Bryce Nielson and a member BluesTones keep the crowd entertained during intermission. Members of both groups combined to create a memorable video in tune with their "prom" theme. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



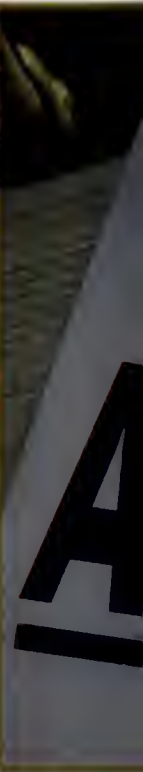




*"Social changes, primarily  
Obama's victory, have really  
opened up the forum for  
debating different economic  
opinions on campus."  
-sophomore Andrew Tran*



"I've taken up new  
instruments and explored new  
literature in classes. I've always  
wanted to and I just decided  
to. No time like the present."  
-senior Jimmy Cameron







**SUNLIGHT** shines on a student as she sings in praise on the Commons. Many religious groups chose to share their faith with their peers in hopes of enlightenment. The Commons made a home for many organizations and businesses, giving students a chance to explore new experiences, music and even free food. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



**A SIGN** showcases student's school spirit, especially for arch nemesis Appalachian State University. The Dukes came back to beat the Mountaineers in a football game by three after a disappointing first half. *Photo by Nicole Santarsiero*



**THE CROWD** at the university's annual "Greek Sing" goes wild as the event begins. Greek Sing was part of Greek Week, a time for sororities and fraternities to come together and celebrate through community service, philanthropy and fun activities such as Greek Olympics and Penny Wars, among others. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



**THE** winner of "America's Next Top Model" at 1787 Orientation proudly displays her Madison spirit. The organizers of the five-day orientation event were constantly coming up with innovative events to make incoming freshmen feel welcomed and excited to be a part of the university community. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



**A BAND** member shows his Duke pride as the Marching Royal Dukes take the field prior to one of the many football games that entrench Bridgeforth Stadium. After traditionally completing the fight song, the university's alma mater and the National Anthem, the MRD formed a path for the football team. At the beginning of all the games, the crowd was riled up thanks to the band's promise of an action-packed event.


*Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



**ENTERTAINMENT** is the name of the game at Sunset on The Quad during the university's weeklong Homecoming celebration. Senior Joel Gerlach takes centerstage as his fellow members of a cappella group Exit 245 back him up. Students with a passion for singing had the opportunity to let their talent flourish among the eight premier a cappella groups at the university.

*Photo by Amy Gwaltney*





"I have seen my major expand  
into an even larger, more  
desirable program. I also think  
the new Performing Arts  
Center will be a great resource  
for the university."

-sophomore Jake Thiewes





"Graduating in May is a daunting task. JMU has instilled in me that I can 'Be the Change' by igniting my ideas on the basis of values and knowledge attained through life experiences."

-senior Landry Bosworth





**JAMES** Madison wears a poncho on Family Weekend, preventing rain damage due to the weekend's inclement weather. Many students did not realize that the university's namesake stood at only 5 feet 4 inches until they saw the lifesize statue in front of Roop Hall.

*Photo by Rebecca Schneider*



**DECKED** out in school spirit, a student dons joker-like face paint during the home football game against University of Delaware. The Dukes dominated during the sixth game of the season, winning 41-7. Many students chose to show their enthusiasm through a temporary tattoo or wild face and body paint. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



**PERFORMING** for the Christmas Eve pre-show, members of Alpha Kappa Alpha take the stage at Operation Santa Claus. Every year, Student Ambassadors raised thousands of dollars through the event, which provided resources to underprivileged families in the Harrisonburg area so they could enjoy the holiday season. *Photo by Tiffany Brown*



**POSING** as the Grinch, Duke Dog entertains the crowd at Operation Santa Claus. The theme of the 2008 program was "How The Duke Dog Stole Christmas." The Student Ambassadors put on the event, only two groups performed, compared to 16 in 2008. *Photo by Tiffany Brown*



**EXCITED** and energetic First Year Orientation Guides and Orientation Program Assistants celebrate the end of 1787 Orientation. FROGs and OPAs created a welcoming atmosphere for incoming freshmen each year. *Photo by Erin Bender*



**AS** part of Family Weekend, alumni show their spirit by decorating a Volkswagen bus with purple and gold. The family won "Best Tailgating Spirit" during Homecoming 2006. *Photo by Rebecca Schneider*



"This year I saw JMU come together with so much spirit during football season. Even though we fell short, it felt amazing to be a part of the JMU Nation."

junior Tiffany Brown

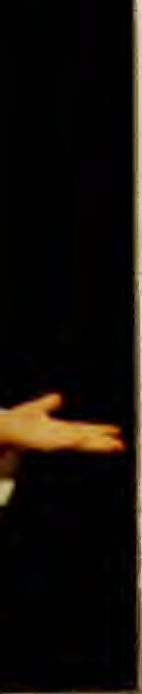






Photo by Jaynell Stoneman

Photo by Notolie Wall



# Features



Photo by Natalie Wall





**GUITARIST** Jeff Turner complements lead singer Max Bemis during the band's set. Like his brother, Jake, Turner sang backup vocals in addition to playing guitar for the band. *Photo by Katie Piwowarczyk*

“Even in the back, people were jumping around and dancing. I've never been so far in the back at a concert where there's still that much energy.”  
—sophomore, Michelle Koob

# The Glory Of Rock

Say Anything rocked out to an energetic crowd in Wilson Hall

**S**ay Anything said anything and everything as they entertained a packed auditorium with outrageous rock songs, comedic comments and intense energy.

"You know how when you go to a concert and you don't really know all the songs, so it's all up to the performance?" asked sophomore Michelle Koob. "Well, they were so entertaining. I thought they put on a really good show."

Energy filled the stage during the hour-long set as the crowd cheered for the band to play more songs. Lead singer Max Bemis also proved he had a valuable stage presence as he engaged in comedic dialogue with the audience throughout the night.

"It was almost like stand-up in between songs," said Koob. "I was cracking up, like, the whole time, so it wasn't bad that we didn't know any songs."

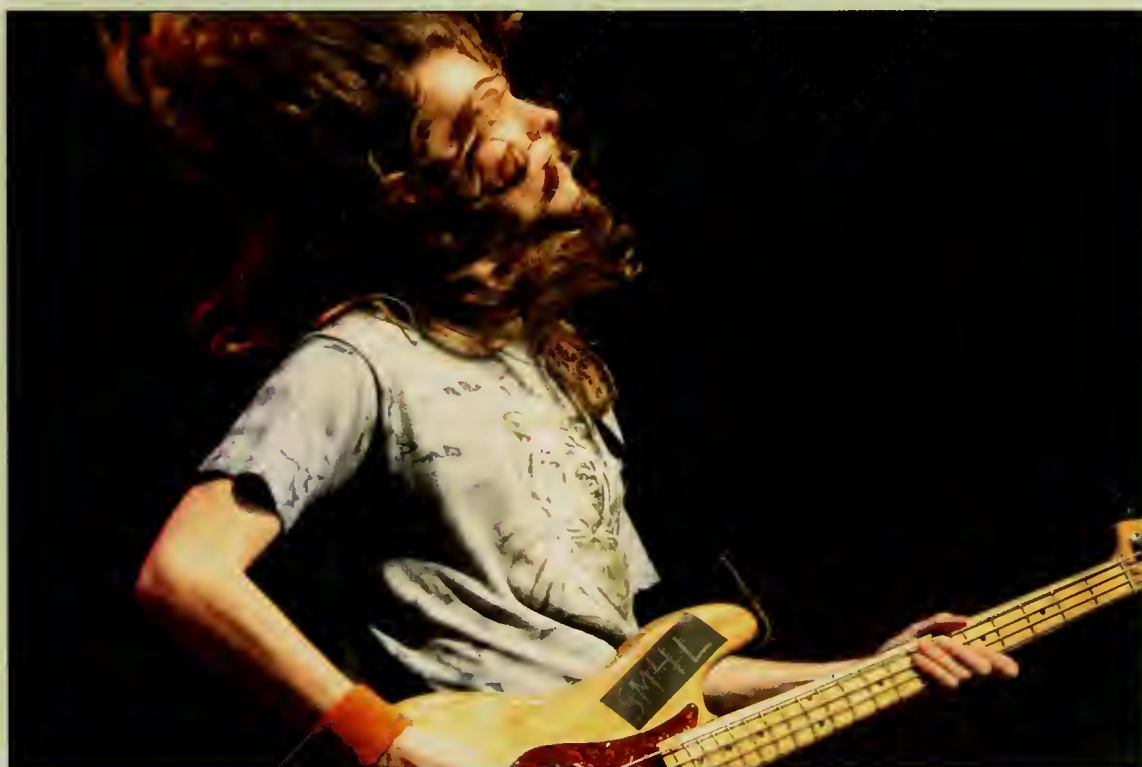
Koob decided just an hour before the show began at 8 p.m. that she wanted to go. After finishing dinner, she ran to her dorm to get money before finding seats in the back of the auditorium with two friends.

"I knew two of their songs and I liked those, so in the back of my head I was kind of considering going," explained Koob. "It was a last minute decision, but it was really fun."

The set list was split between two albums "...Is A Real Boy" and "In Defense of the Genre." The band played popular songs including "People Like You Are Why People Like Me Exist," "BabyGirl, I'm A Blur," "Shiksa (Girlfriend)," "Every Man Has A Molly," "The Church Channel" and "An Orgy of Critics."

Sophomore Melissa Smetts loved seeing her favorite song, "Wow, I Can Get Sexual Too," performed live. As a fan of the band, she thought they sounded great, even from the back of the auditorium.

"They did sing very well, especially compared to other artists who sing live," said Smetts.



**ENERGIZED** by the crowd, bass guitarist Alex Kent loses himself in the music. A 22-year-old New York native, Kent formerly played bass for the punk-rock band, "Lance's Hero." Photo by Katie Piwowarczyk







**ENCOURAGING** audience participation, Max Bemis offers the mic to the crowd. Bemis was Say Anything's primary songwriter, basing most of his songs on experience.

Photo by Katie Przewarczyk

UPB announced that tickets for the spring concert would go on sale on Feb. 11 for \$15 for JMU Access Card (JACard) holders or \$20 without a JACard.

Patrick White, then a member of UPB's Center Stage committee, worked security at the event. White was the 2008-09 director of the committee.

"Everyone seemed to be having a good time," said White. "I wasn't sure how popular they were going to be, but they definitely were that night."

UPB chose the band based on results of a survey sent to students the previous summer. The decision was based on the number of votes the band received, as well as other factors, including availability.

"It was a good variety to bring them here," said Smetts. "But I don't know if it was the best decision."

Based on the amount of energy filling the auditorium though, nobody in the audience seemed to be disappointed by the choice.

"Since I didn't know the band really well, we were sitting in the back," said Koob. "But everyone was standing up during the songs and you could hear, even in the back, people were jumping around and dancing," said Koob. "I've never been so far in the back at a concert where there's still that much energy." Amid complex songs and persistent clapping, the bands shocked the auditorium with their eccentric power and liveliness.

"The singer really reached out to the audience," said White. His favorite performance was the familiar song "Alive With The Glory of Love," which closed the show.

Koob agreed. "I liked how they finished the concert with ... the first song I had ever heard by them," she said, adding she would see them perform again if she could. "They know how to put on a show."





**STRUMMING** his guitar, Jake Turner looks out into the audience of 800. Say Anything's latest album, "In Defense of the Genre," was named one of Spin magazine's top 40 albums of 2007. Photo by Katie Piwowarczyk



**SHOWING** off both his talents, Parker Case splits his concentration between vocals and guitar. Case had been playing with the band since 2006. Photo by Katie Piwowarczyk



# Desiring

BY KADY WILSON

# Σ Excellence

Sororities and fraternities wowed the crowd in a multi-faceted dance competition

greek Sing was a prominent tradition at the university, held annually during Greek Week in Godwin gym each spring semester. The event allowed sororities and fraternities to entertain one another, the campus and the surrounding community.

As assistant director of the Office of Student Activities and Involvement, Jill Courson began planning three months before the popular event.

"It's entertaining and a great way for different Greek letter organizations on our campus to come together and show off their talent and have some fun," said Courson.

Greek organizations that participated were required to submit their theme ideas to the Greek Sing Coordinators for approval. The coordinators also double-checked that themes were not repeated.

The Kappa Alpha Theta sorority members began practicing a week after their theme was approved, for one to three hours each time they met. As the new chapter on campus, they did not know what to expect from the other sororities. "I don't think we had a disadvantage, we just needed to learn the ropes of Greek Sing," said senior Landry Bosworth, president of Kappa Alpha Theta. "Most of us had never even attended Greek Sing, so we had a lot to learn and not much time to do so."

A judging process determined the winners. With 100 possible points per each of the four judges, a "high score" was more than 350 points. The judging rubric included the following areas: theme (10 points), dance performance (25 points), "hands" performance (30 points), props (15 points), soloist's performance (10 points) and audience appeal (10 points). All of the sections were scored per judge and then tallied as a whole.

Stacey Garrett, graduate assistant at the Office of Student Activities and Involvement, judged for the first time this year.

"The atmosphere of Greek Sing when I walked in about an hour before it started reminded me, in a good way, of a competition day," said Garrett. "I was really excited to see the final performances after seeing the women



**INTENTLY** focusing on her routine, graduate Rachel Hatcher represents Alpha Sigma Tau on the dance floor. The sororities held tryouts to determine who would be performers and who would be "hands."  
Photo by Natalie Wall





**MEMBERS** of Kappa Alpha sport caps and black beaters as their costumes. Despite their coordinated efforts, the brothers did not place. Photo by Natalie Wall

and men prepping in the gym." Even though there was no prize awarded to winners, sororities still took the competition seriously.

"Winning this event is a point of pride for chapters and having those bragging rights all year is something that is sought after," said Courson.

First-time participants Sigma Phi Epsilon won first place for the fraternities with the theme, "We Just Want to Dance!" Zeta Tau Alpha came in first place for the sororities with the theme, "ZTAir."

Zeta Tau Alpha's performance was intricate and the music clips they used fit the theme well. The opening song was "Touch the Sky," by Kanye West, followed by other songs such as "I Just Wanna Fly," by Sugar Ray and "Come Fly with Me," by Michael Bublé. The dancers changed wardrobe accessories often, starting out dressed as pilots in hats, white shirts, black pants and black ties. When the song "All Around the World" from the Lizzie McGuire soundtrack played, the hands members opened a banner that was painted like a globe and walked around it with even space between each member. Some of the props, in addition to the globe banner, included an enlarged ticket, a banner of hills with "ZTAir" painted in the sky and a banner with airplane seating in rows.



**LEANING** back, the Alpha Tau Omega brothers break it down in front of the audience. Students, Greek and non-Greek alike, attended the annual performance as its reputation always drew in large crowds. Photo by Natalie Wall



**RHYTHMICALLY** shaking their hips in unison, the sisters of Sigma Kappa flash their moves on the floor. Greek organizations had to follow strict time limits for their performances. *Photo by Natalie Wall*

Male non-affiliates sparked the audience's enthusiasm during Zeta Tau Alpha's performance by helping with cheer stunts and tumblers. These elements stirred up the crowd members, who applauded and cheered throughout the performance.

There was an intermission performance by a team of representatives from each branch of the Black and Latino Greek Caucus (BLGC)—which included the majority of Greek Organizations under the Center for Multicultural Student Services (CMSS)—who stepped together.

This year, nine fraternities participated, up from only two in 2007. However, the fraternities were more laid back than sororities when it came to practice schedules, props and costumes.

Sigma Phi Epsilon's main team practiced five-to-eight times before the performance,

and the hands team practiced three times, including a run-through before they went into the gym.

The fraternity's performance also started with a Kanye West song, "Flashing Lights." The dancers were dressed in black zip-up sweatshirts and white masks mimicking the sharp movements of "America's Best Dance Crew," The JabbaWockeeZ, while the hands flickered flashlights on the risers in the background.

They incorporated well-known dances like "The Cuban Shuffle" and "Walk it Out." The soloist sang "I Wanna Dance With Somebody," while the hands held up signs with each sorority's letters

“  
Greek Sing, to the social Greek organizations, is equivalent to the Homecoming Step Show for the Greek organizations that fall under CMSS.  
—senior Chiquita King





**MICROPHONE** in hand, senior Daniel Robert Rubio began to nervously sing "I Believe I Can Fly" as part of Alpha Tau Omega's skit. Every group was required to have a solo performance, which could consist of a song or dance routine worth up to 10 percent of the total score.

*Photo by Natalie Wall*



**DRESSED** in '80s workout attire, the men of Pi Kappa Alpha get down and dirty with a humorous routine. Many fraternities chose to take a comedic route during Greek Sing.

*Photo by Natalie Wall*

to gain audience participation and support.

A unique element in Sigma Phi Epsilon's performance was the addition of the Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA), Inc. women.

"The lovely, and ever so talented ladies of AKA stepped for us. Our Greek Sing Coordinator, [Robert Burden], decided to ask them about four weeks out," said senior Jason Myers, president of Sigma Phi Epsilon. "They were a tremendous help throughout the entire process."

Chiquita King, a member of AKA was one of four women who stepped during the performance. She remembers walking into the gym thinking, "Wow, there are a lot of people here."

"Greek Sing, to the social Greek organizations, is equivalent to the Homecoming Step Show for the Greek organizations that fall under CMSS," said King. "Members of each organization dedicate their time and efforts to implement an entertaining show of quality and excellence."



# Golden Generation

By Jen Beers

More than 3,000 centennial  
grads gathered to commemorate  
their graduation

**g**raduation day: the final celebration of one's college experience. It was the day that most students both dread and dream of, a day that marked the end of college and the beginning of the "real world." Unlike previous years, however, the graduates of 2008 had the proud honor of celebrating another exciting event: the 100th anniversary of the university.

Bridgeforth Stadium filled up quickly with family members and friends anxiously waiting to see their loved ones take the field for one last time. Accompanied by the university's wind symphony, the graduates came out looking like ants marching in their purple

**AS PART** of his cap art, a nervous graduate conducts some last-minute job searching. Career and Academic Planning held career fairs throughout the year to assist in job placement. *Photo by Natalie Wall*

**CELEBRATING** her recent freedom, graduate Caitlin Bennett plays with her niece, Keira. The Student Government Association helped the students count down to graduation, starting at 200 days. *Photo by Natalie Wall*







A PICTURE is taken of President Linwood H. Rose as he recognizes the excellence of the class of 2008. The centennial class consisted of 2,696 undergraduates and 450 graduate and doctoral students. Photo by Natalie Wall

SPORADICALLY popping up throughout the ceremony, graduate Evan Dyson made sure to document his last moments at the university. Dyson was involved with *The Breeze* and worked extensively with photography, finding the importance in capturing visual memories. Photo by Natalie Wall



gowns, a tribute to the Centennial. The stadium was filled with tears, laughter and cell phones as parents and graduates tried desperately to find one another.

It wasn't until the wind symphony started to play at the end and everyone was beginning to find their families that it really hit me that I wasn't going to return to school next year and I had to say goodbye to everyone.

-graduate Christina Chirovsky

One hundred years was a huge accomplishment. "When I came to JMU in 2004, I remember thinking even then how I would be graduating at the centennial graduation," said graduate Eleni Menoutis. "I was so excited knowing that I would take part in something so important to the university's history."

Graduation has come a long way. For the first graduation, students all wore long, white dresses with long sleeves

and high collars. The ceremony was held in the assembly hall of Harrisonburg's courthouse. Processions then moved to the new Virginia Theatre in downtown Harrisonburg in 1915. The first graduation to be held on campus in Harrison Hall was in 1916, where students were again dressed in all white. The first year that graduates wore caps and gowns was in 1917, after many requests from students. A tradition of a main speaker began in the 1980s, and separate college ceremonies began in 1993.





**BEHIND** the faculty's backs, students liven up the lengthy ceremony by tossing a beach ball. Following the main ceremony, each college held its own ceremony to recognize the students individually. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



Throughout the history of the university's graduations, one thing remained the same: the accomplishments of the graduates and recognition of all of their hard work. The 2008 graduation started off with President Linwood H. Rose welcoming the class of 2008 along with friends and family. "Your commencement is particularly special because you are the university's century-year graduating class," announced Rose. "Through this commencement, you usher in [another] century."

Following Rose's introduction a video was shown that captured the history of the university, a proud moment for graduates and faculty to share. The video, "The Madison Century," described the transformation of the university over 100 years, highlighting changes and acknowledging current achievements.

"For 100 years, this uncommon culture has defined the Madison experience and changed countless lives—lives that in turn are changing the world." The video provided examples of citizenship, student responses to society's needs and student contributions to business and economics.

Student Body President graduate, Lee Brooks, introduced graduate Sarah Roquemore, the student speaker for the main ceremony. "I could really relate to all the speeches made," said graduate Dre Hernandez. "They made me realize how amazing these past four years have been and all of the memories I've made."

Following the student address, Rose introduced the commencement speaker for 2008, Thomas Dingledine. Dingledine was the great-grandson of William Johnston Dingledine, who helped persuade the Virginia General Assembly to build the State Normal and Industrial School for Women in 1908, which later became James Madison University. Dingledine's ancestry played an important role in the development of the university and was involved with philanthropy that contributed to the university's academics and services.

Dingledine's commencement address encouraged students to "Be The Change" by making a mark on the world and helping others.



**POLKA DOTS** add flair and distinction to graduates' hats. Decorative caps enabled friends and family to easily find the students as they proceeded to their seats. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



"Be a creator of history, be the change that is so needed in our world today," said Dingledine. "By having a positive impact on others, you will create history."

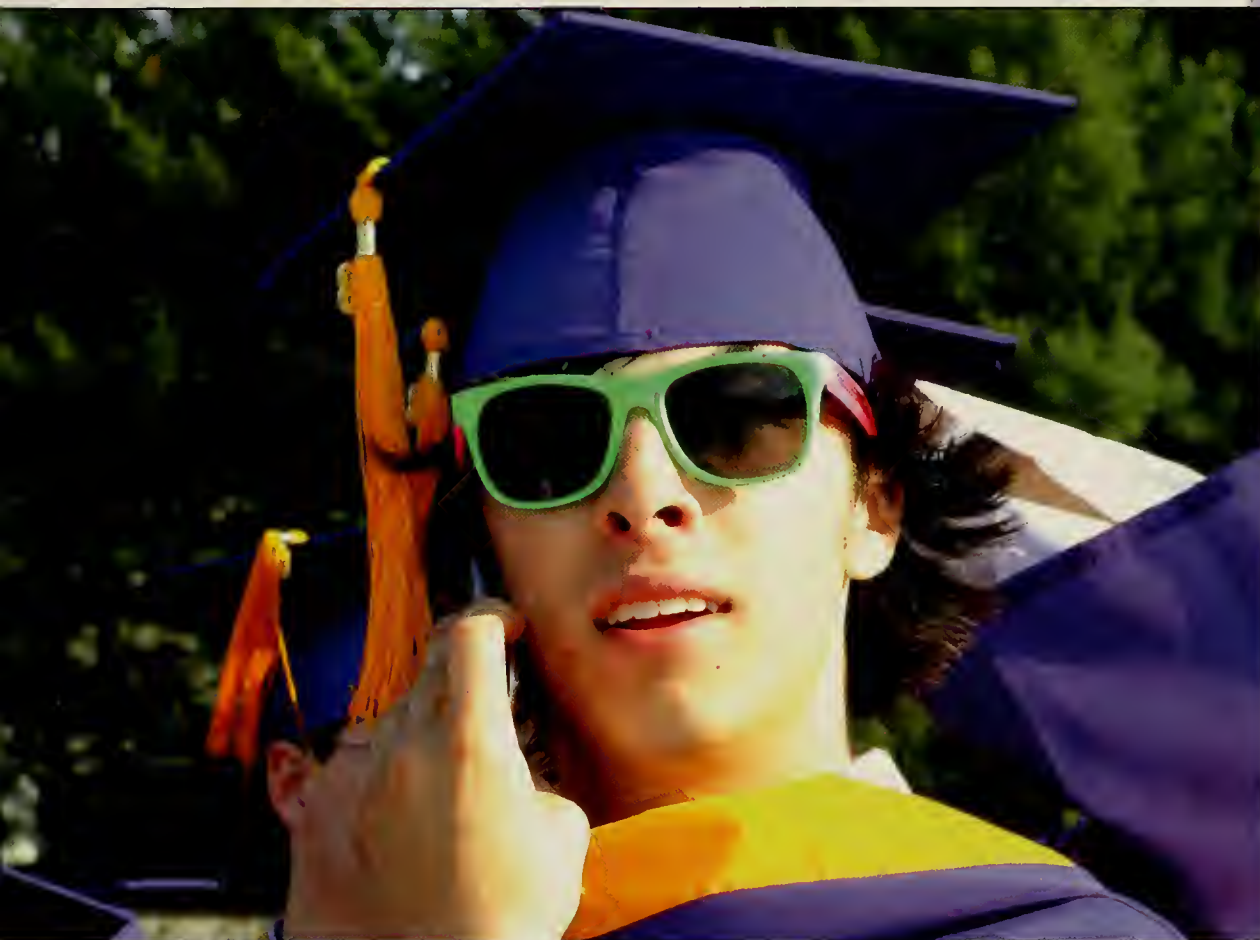
Dingledine himself was an example of helping others by donating more than \$2 million to the university. "To have a speaker talk about the importance of volunteering and contributing to the university when he himself has, is a perfect example of how each and every one of us takes on a responsibility to give back to JMU just as much as we have taken from it," said graduate Vanessa Herrada.

Following Dingledine's speech was the presentation of candidates for doctoral and master's degrees. It was at this time that graduates began to anticipate the end of the ceremony. Restless and excited students fidgeted in their seats and craned their necks to find their family members so they could share their final moments as a student. The Alma Matar could be heard all around campus as students sang along to the last song played at the ceremony.

As the final words were spoken to the class of 2008 and students began to turn their tassels to the left, the only thing for graduates to do was throw their hats in the air in celebration of completing four hard years of college.

"It wasn't until the wind symphony started to play at the end and everyone was beginning to find their families that it really hit me that I wasn't going to return to school next year and I had to say goodbye to everyone," said graduate Christina Chirovsky.

As they left Bridgeforth Stadium, they gave hugs and kisses to family members and posed for pictures together. The graduates spent their last minutes on the campus that had become their home. It was where they said goodbye to their parents as they got ready for freshman year, and it was where they said goodbye to their friends as they prepared to open a new chapter in their lives.



**DONNING** funky sunglasses, graduate Nathan Zelena stands out while attempting to locate his friends and family. The Quad was a popular spot for photos post-ceremony. *Photo by Natalie Wall*





# Leaping Forward

By Bethany Blevins

FROGs familiarized first-year students with the ins and outs of college life

**f**ive days before the semester began, 3,850 freshmen arrived for move-in and orientation. Little did they know how unique Madison orientation was. A hand-picked group of First-year Orientation Guides (FROGs) and Orientation Peer Advisers (OPAs) waited eagerly to get the exciting week started. 1787 Orientation was designed to ease the transition from life at home to life on a college campus with multiple workshops, concerts and cookouts.

The entire experience, however, would not have been possible if it were not for the FROGs and OPAs who trained and prepared to welcome them. A week before freshmen arrived, the FROGs and OPAs met to get ready for orientation.

"The first Saturday there, we had a FROG check-in and then we did massive icebreakers to loosen everyone up and get to know each other," said junior Polly Reuter, who was a rookie FROG. The FROGs learned a lot about one another and the orientation events with their FROG group, each led by two OPAs. "The most beneficial part of being a FROG was the first day of fall

orientation training," said sophomore Caroline Gray. "We met 10 new members of the group and did a lot of icebreakers and get-to-know-you activities. It was really important because I became close with the people who supported me through all my highs and lows through the whole process," said Gray.

Dr. Mark Warner, senior vice president of Student Affairs, spoke to the groups and gave them all three goals to take on. The first was to leave a nickel in a soda machine to brighten someone's day since the price of soda went up from \$1.20 to \$1.25. The second was to pick up trash on campus to ease work for the cleaning staff, and the third was to appreciate the cleaning staff who worked so hard behind the scenes to keep our campus clean. Dan Murphy, coordinator of student staff, also gave a presentation about customer service and how to appropriately answer questions and talk to parents and students effectively, according to Reuter.



**EXECUTING** the signature FROG dance, sophomore Mitch Ramey performs moves during the "Thriller" segment. The FROG dance was presented as a compilation of hits that included "Four Minutes" and "What Is Love?" Photo by Natalie Wall



**ASKING** the audience for help, a first-year student participates in Are You Smarter than a FROG? The mock game show addressed topics that related to college life: dorms, sex and personal hygiene. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



**AFTER** choreographing the "Genie in a Bottle" part of the FROG dance, junior OPA Ryan Cury shows the FROGs and first-years his moves. OPAs and FROGs were responsible for creating dances for different portions of the performance. *Photo by Natalie Wall*





The FROGs also met with the multicultural representatives who were there to provide counseling for first-year students. This year, a greater emphasis was placed on the relationship between the FROGs, RAs and hall directors.

They worked as one unit to be more involved in each group's events, and held meetings to plan larger get-togethers. Most importantly, the FROGs met with the organizers of every event the freshmen attended, including move-in and freshmen assessment, in order to prepare themselves for the events.

The freshmen were required to read "The Federalist Ten" by James Madison, an essay written to support the ratification of the United States constitution. The FROGs were prepared to answer questions and explain the significance of the challenging material. The reading was meant to mentally prepare first-year students for what college-level reading would be like. The students compared Madison's writings to those by Robert Yates, who opposed the Constitution's ratification.

The freshmen arrived to find that the schedule for 1787 Orientation was jam packed with fun events designed to meet new people and ease the move-in jitters.

"Coming into orientation, I expected to meet a whole bunch of new people and to have an exciting, fun week," said freshman Ashleigh Gunderson. "They definitely kept us busy and I had a lot of fun while learning about school."

An ice cream social, a Taylor Down Under game night and a fair on the football field all helped break the ice.

The freshmen had conversations with professors and a meeting with their advisers to ask questions about life as a student and to fully understand the responsibilities and demands of college work.

“ “  
Coming into orientation, I expected to meet a whole bunch of new people and to have an exciting, fun week. They definitely kept us busy...

-freshman Ashleigh Gunderson



**WITH** hands in the air, first-years and FROGs throw caution to the wind during the FROG dance. "The first-year students always love the FROG dance because it's full of energy and great songs," said senior FROG Ali Reeder. Photo by Natalie Wall





**A TRADITIONAL** photograph is taken with Duke Dog during Quad Fest. First-years gathered after dinner with their FROG groups to enjoy activities and entertainment. *Photo by Natalie Wall*

**HOPING** to beat their odds, first-years play blackjack during Casino Night. Students were given fake orientation money at the door to use to play casino card games. *Photo by Natalie Wall*





"For the freshmen, the most beneficial part of orientation was meeting with the professors and advisors because they knew exactly what to expect... before stepping into their first class. Seeing orientation as a FROG made me realize how important that meeting was, and I am glad that the freshmen benefit from it every year," said Gray.

Activities included an open mic and casino night, free movies such as *Juno* and *I Am Legend*, the Madison Beach Party at University Recreation Center, and even a pep rally. JMAD is On mixed elements of *The Price is Right* and *Family Feud* to create a unique and interactive game show. A cappella groups, comedians, step groups, and dance groups performed their best for their freshmen audience at Jimmy's Mad Jam, and many of the freshmen also showed up to enjoy the show put on by Michael Anthony, a hypnotist.

Finally, the FROGs held a closing ceremony to thank the freshmen for their participation and cooperation during orientation, giving a final performance of the legendary FROG dance. Without the encouraging and enthusiastic attitudes of the well-trained FROGs and OPAs, the orientation would not have been executed to its full potential.



**SPECTATORS** look on as brave first-years attempted the FROG dance. Dancing along, excited OPAs got into the groove, while others enjoyed the free entertainment. Photo by Natalie Wall



**FIRST**-years look fierce during America's Next Top Model, hosted by REACH Peer Educators. Questions focused on how to live a healthy lifestyle in college. Photo by Natalie Wall



**INTENTLY** watching their FROGs, the first-years try to mimic the dance. During Quad Fest, the FROGs broke down the dance into parts in order to teach the first-years. Photo by Natalie Wall



**PURPLE** and gold for Madison pride, new portable toilets decorate an on-campus parking lot. The portable toilets were placed in parking lots throughout the campus, adding spirit as well as convenience for tailgaters on game days. Photo by Natalie Wall



By Caitlin Harrison

# Grilling Up Anticipation

Students and alumni came together to celebrate Duke pride



**STAYING** hydrated, junior Kelly Salire keeps cool during the hot day. Hand-decorated beer pong tables added spirit to the already pumped crowd.

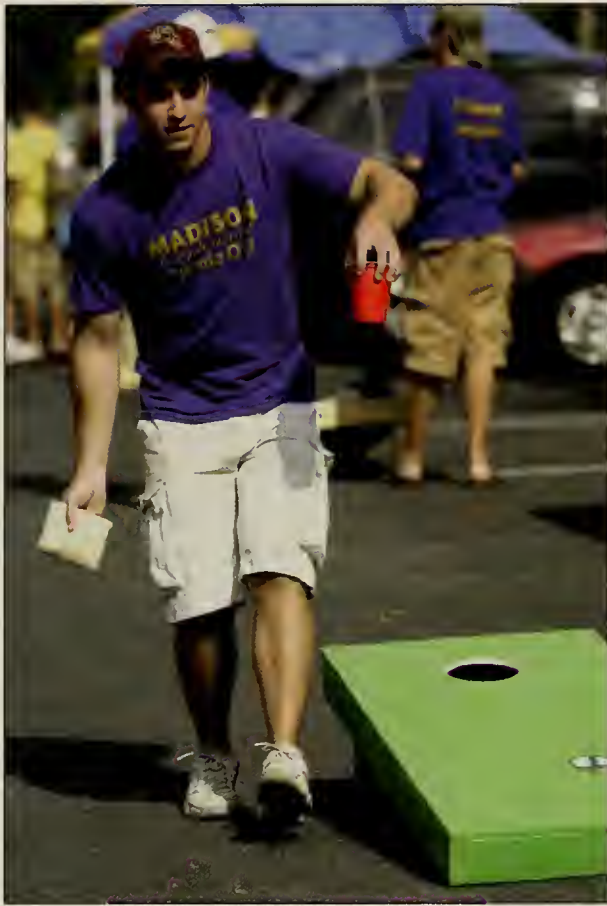
Photo by Amy Gwaltney

**T**ailgating at the university had almost become more popular than the football game itself. For each home game, students donned spirit beads and colored wigs and gathered in fields and parking lots to tailgate. Tailgating at the university was not just a time for grilled food and celebratory drinking, but also an opportunity for family members to visit students and join in the school spirit.

Most of the fall football games started in the late afternoon or evening, so students started tailgating early in the day. A typical tailgate began with shopping for refreshments, such as hamburgers, hot dogs, buns and beer. The second challenge was finding an open spot in a parking lot. The parking lots adjacent to the bookstore, Godwin field and the Champions Drive parking deck near Zane Showker Hall had to be empty by 5 p.m. on Fridays to leave space for anyone who reserved a parking spot for the game. Many students had friends help them drop their cars off in the lots the night before the game in order to claim a spot.

Tailgating and football games were also a great time for alumni and families to come together. Alumnus and former Dukes football player Bruce Morton tried to make it to every home game he could, to see old friends and enjoy good company.

"My favorite part is seeing some of the same folks every weekend and also reconnecting with some friends I may



**WITH** a red cup and bean bag in his hands, senior Brent Kostkowski plays a game of corn hole. The university's parking lots were filled with students and alumni preparing for the first home football game of the season against N.C. State. Photo by Natalie Wall

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That's part of the reason I fell in love with JMU. The atmosphere on campus on game days is just amazing.

— junior Katie Morton

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not have seen in years,” said Morton. “Catching up, reminiscing and sharing in the excitement of the game and how far both JMU and we as individuals have come.”

Bruce's daughter, Katie, also attended the university and had been tailgating with her parents, who were both alumni, since she was in diapers. “It was always a big deal when we came down for games when I was younger because we would get to hang out with all my dad's football buddies and it was always such a fun experience,” said Katie, a junior at the university. “That's part of the reason I fell in love with JMU. The atmosphere on campus on game days is just amazing.”

The parking lots radiated with energy before the game on Sept. 20, when the Dukes played Appalachian State University. Students clogged the aisles between cars in the Hillside parking lot, and walking from one end to the other was nearly impossible. Students were seen on their cell phones trying to find one another, grilling hamburgers and hotdogs, and standing on the tops of cars.

“It was really exciting for me to go tailgating because in high school, tailgating was not a big deal. But here it's completely different,” said freshman Emily Jorgenson. “Tailgating is a great way to meet new people, relax a little, and most importantly, get pumped for the game!” Many students also played drinking games like beer pong and corn hole.

Something new to tailgating this year was the addition of the purple and gold portable toilets placed in various locations in and around the parking lots near Hillside, Godwin Field and Zane Showker Hall.

Fraternities and sororities also got involved in tailgating. Junior Piers Trickett, the social coordinator for Delta Chi, volunteered to organize his fraternity's tailgate, which involved shopping for food and drinks and helping other members of Delta Chi to park their cars in the various parking lots across campus. “My responsibilities for the tailgates start on Friday, the day before the game, when I coordinate parking people's cars in Hillside lot so we have a space to tailgate,” said Trickett. “I also have to buy food, get the grill and give people rides to the tailgate. After everyone is already at the game, I have to coordinate people to clean up what's left over and put it into cars.”

The Student Duke Club, an organization that gave students multiple benefits throughout the year, held a tailgate for its members before each game as well. Students received a T-shirt and a Student Duke Club card to use for discounts at various Harrisonburg businesses. “I think that the Student Duke Club is a really great organization because you get free food at the tailgate,” said junior Sara Riddle. “We were also able to get into the game early!”

After spending time at a university tailgate, it was easy to see why the community was so spirited. Tailgating provided a great way for students, alumni and families to interact with one another before the football games.

“That's probably my favorite part about tailgating: meeting new people and just having a good time hanging out with fellow Dukes. I just think that it shows what a big family the JMU community is and I'm so glad I'm a part of it,” said Katie.



# TGIF

UPB provided free comedy for alternative Friday night fun

**h**ow do you know a comedian has done his homework? When he has Googled "JMU" to find out that James Madison's wife, Dolly, was "hot."

David Huntsberger of "Premium Blend" was the first comedian of the year to participate in University Program Board's (UPB) Funny Freakin' Fridays, an hour-long comedy show held on the first Friday of every month in Taylor Down Under (TDU).

After a long week of tests, projects and homework, students gathered in TDU to relieve academic stress. Leaving the week behind with a few jokes and situational humor allowed many students to relax and prepare for the rest of the month.

Different brands of humor sometimes led to awkward silence, but when a comedian bombed, students would offer appreciative encouragement. Comedians rarely heard chirping crickets, giving each student a chance to find out what he or she considered "comedy."

"To choose performers, we look at YouTube videos of comedians and figure out who would be a good fit for JMU," said junior Kelly Patullo, president of UPB. "But it's not a 'behind closed doors' decision. I've had e-mails from students who want to see certain performers come to campus. We do our best to make it happen."

In September, Huntsberger—deemed the funniest person in Austin, Texas according to *The Austin Chronicle*—arrived on stage, remarking on Duke Dog's crown and getting the crowd pumped up. He joked with the audience about evolution and aliens, and asked for volunteers to come up and tell a joke or two.

Throughout the year, students were encouraged to find their inner funny bone and make fellow students laugh, all in hopes of finding the next breakout star.

A special student comedy showcase was planned for December. Hosted by "Last Comic Standing" semi-finalist, Adam Hunter, the show brought both profes-

sional and student comedy together.

"This year is different in a couple of ways," said junior Annie Blewett, UPB's director of special events. "First, the student comedy showcase is unique—while we have had student comedians open for professionals, they have never been the main draw to the event. We wanted to see what fellow Dukes could do."

This year also brought a chance for additional feedback. Although students were always asked to provide reviews after the shows, this year allowed students to vote on comedians they wanted to see perform during the spring semester. This feature was created to further cater to students who chose this form of entertainment over a night of partying.

"It's a very good alternative social program that's engaging for students," said Patullo. "A lecture on a Friday night might not be an effective form of entertainment. A comedian is. When I started this program last year, 50 people would come. [This year] September's event had standing room only. More and more people are choosing Funny Freakin' Fridays."

"We try to make it an event that students can count on as fun entertainment and an alcohol alternative," said Blewett. "We also seek to keep the comedians very diverse, yet universally funny."

Laughing together was a way of connecting. Escaping cold weather with a cup of coffee, freshmen and upperclassmen alike shared a sense of community.

"I wanted to see something on Fridays specifically

**STARTING** out his act, comedian David Huntsberger jokes about college life. Huntsberger was voted the funniest person in Austin, Texas according to *The Austin Chronicle*. Photo by Natalie Wall







**SARCASTICALLY** staring at the audience, David Huntsberger engages the crowd. Huntsberger was featured on Comedy Central's "Premium Blend," a half-hour show featuring rising stars in the stand-up business. Photo by Natalie Wall

**STUDENTS** gather around the stage in Taylor Down Under, anticipating the night's entertainment. Sponsored by UPB, Funny Freakin' Fridays gave students a chance to unwind after a stressful week. Photo by Natalie Wall

geared towards freshmen," said Patullo, who created the concept in 2007. "Instead of sitting in a dorm room being homesick, a student can go see consistent, accessible, fun and free entertainment in the welcoming atmosphere of TDU."

Whereas UPB events were generally one-time venues, Funny Freakin' Fridays was held rain or shine in the laid-back atmosphere of TDU.

"I think an important thing about Funny Freakin' Fridays is that UPB keeps it consistent," said Patullo. "It's always the first Friday of every month, barring extenuating circumstances, so people always know it's coming. When we have enough notice that a comedian can fit us into his or her schedule, we're able to make the event more fun. In winter, we can serve hot chocolate. In February, we can theme TDU for Valentine's Day. We're also able to then publicize the event to make it more exciting for everyone involved."

To keep audiences excited, UPB co-sponsored the event with other organizations. This brought different crowds to TDU, ensuring that new enthusiasm for comedians was injected each month. In October, the Latino Student Alliance worked with UPB to bring Erik Rivera from the Latino Laugh Festival and MTV's "Funny People After Dark." Known for his autobiographical humor, Rivera gave a different perspective to growing up.

The half-Puerto Rican and half-Guatemalan comedian showed at TDU during family weekend, focusing much of his routine on family matters. He joked about getting only one sneaker for Christmas and being forced to wait for his birthday for the other. Likewise, he compared different ethnicities and their powers of arguing. Laughter filled TDU as students reflected on their own childhoods.

Juniors Lindsey Andrews and Stephanie Herron had attended Funny Freakin' Fridays since its inception the previous year, citing its alternative entertainment option as a major draw.

UPB continued to bring programs that could be appreciated by all students as well as visiting comedians. Blewett and other members of the special events committee reached out to different comedians through the student-run, student-funded organization to bring a variety of educational and entertaining events to campus. Assuring that comedians would not only show up, but also have a rewarding experience, meant contacting agents and maintaining professionalism.

"Our program board has a great reputation," said Blewett. "We provide excellent hospitality and deal with agencies in a professional manner. The comedians enjoy the venue and the audience. Why wouldn't they come?"

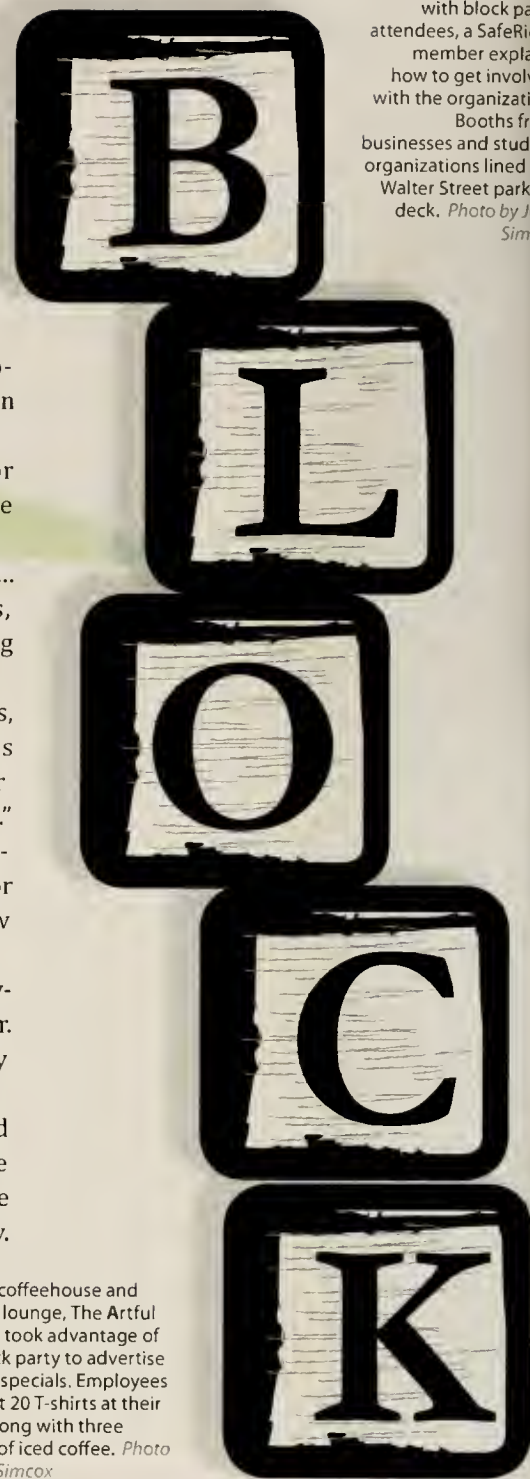




# Rock Around The

By Katie Thisdell

Students explored what historic downtown had to offer



**EXCITED** to interact with block party attendees, a SafeRide member explained how to get involved with the organization. Booths from businesses and student organizations lined the Walter Street parking deck. Photo by Julie Simcox

**C**ontestants stared down at their cheesy pizza slices, waiting to take their first bites. The eight tense students then devoured their slices as their friends cheered them on.

"Just swallow, man," screamed an on-looker. "If you throw up, you're out."

The pizza-eating contest was just one event from the fourth annual Block Party in the 'Burg. Hosted by Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance and many other sponsors, the event was held to introduce students to the downtown area.

The skies cleared just in time for the block party, but wet conditions persuaded volunteers to set up the stage and tables in the first floor of the Water Street parking deck rather than Court Square.

A cappella performances, break dancers, free T-shirts, walking tours and free food ranging from iced coffee to hot dogs brought students into the historic downtown area.

"Even though downtown is so close, it takes students a while to figure out what's there. We really want to bridge that

gap," explained Alexis Morehouse, promotions manager for Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance.

At the Student Ambassadors' table, senior Britt Edstrom readied herself to lead the short walking tours of the area.

"I've lived here for three and a half years... [but] after the training tour for the guides, I learned so much about Harrisonburg that I didn't know about," said Edstrom.

"Sometimes it seems like there are students, and then there's Harrisonburg, so this is an awesome way especially to get first-year students to immediately know about the city."

Junior Tim O'Keefe had a similar appreciation for the opportunity. Living off campus for the first time, he said the town seemed new to him.

"I wanted to learn about the downtown myself," said O'Keefe, also a student ambassador. "After I got trained to lead the tour, I really wanted other people to learn too."

Beginning in the parking deck, O'Keefe led his group past James McHone Jewelry, the Artful Dodger, Blue Nile, Glenn's Fair Price Store and the Shenandoah Bicycle Company.

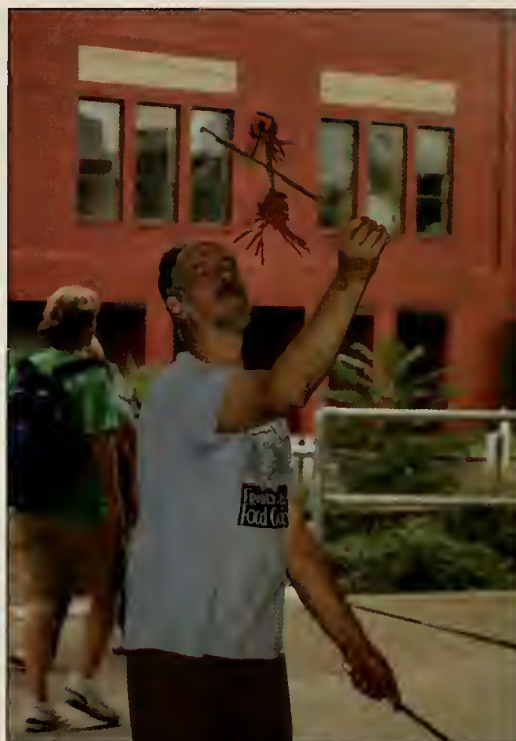
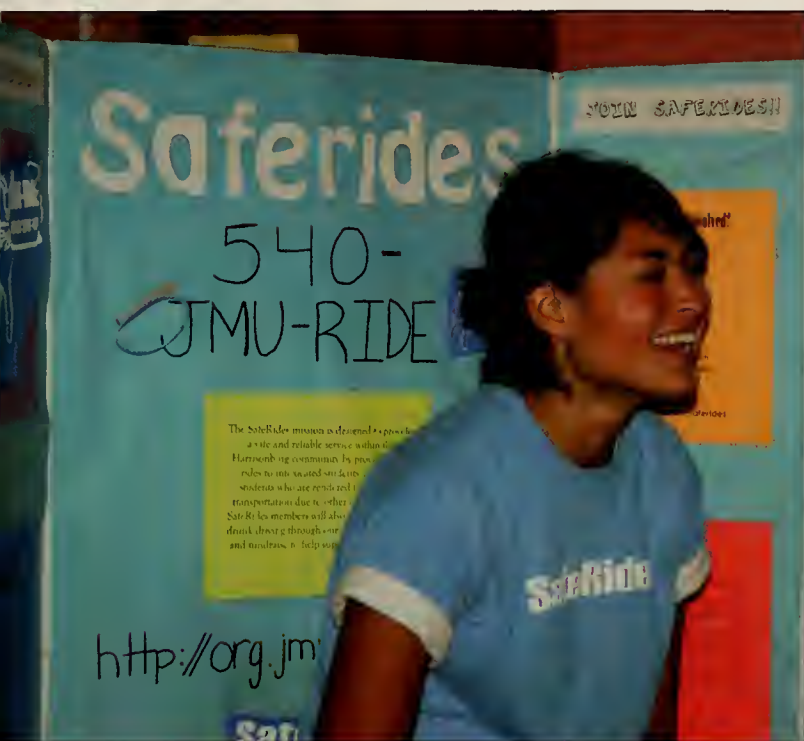


**TREES** on Fire band members entertain both students and Harrisonburg residents. Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance chose bands based on solicited recommendations. Photo by Julie Simcox

**LOCAL** coffeehouse and cocktail lounge, The Artful Dodger, took advantage of the block party to advertise its daily specials. Employees gave out 20 T-shirts at their table, along with three gallons of iced coffee. Photo by Julie Simcox







**CONCENTRATING** on his act, a local man performs for passers-by. Students from Bridgewater College, Eastern Mennonite University and Blue Ridge Community College also attended the block party. Photo by Julie Simcox

Ambassadors were encouraged to take their groups inside to explore the shops as well.

"We want students to see the businesses and not just walk by," said Morehouse. "The community is really the host. We really want to specialize this just for students. We want this to be an educational and cultural experience."

Businesses opened their doors, inviting guests to stop in. The owner of the popular Blue Nile Ethiopian Cuisine led students through the dining room, downstairs bar and lounge, and outside patio, where along with menus, there were also samples of himbasha bread sitting in a traditional basket.

"We want you to remember us," said owner Engdawork Arefaine.

Other businesses also appreciated the influx of customers in the downtown area.

Shank's Bakery had a steady flow of customers looking at their bake cases full of cookies, cakes and other treats.

As senior Bryce Nielsen admired what was available in the shop, he said, "I'm just smelling and looking and planning for the future."

Nielsen had also participated in the pizza-eating contest with cheese pizzas donated from Luigi's.

"It was worth the experience, but maybe not the stomachache," said Nielsen, who took second place in the contest. "I had to sign a liability contract beforehand, which was slightly intimidating."

Other hits during the block party were the performances from a cappella groups, including The Bluestones, Overtones and Madison Project. Morehouse said they were scheduled early in the evening in order to draw more students to the event. Next year she hopes to expand the block party with a showcase of student bands.

"I think the JMU a cappella groups really added a lot to the kick off of the event," she said. "They were really amazing musicians and that was proven by their fans who came down to hear them perform. The JMU break dancers also showed incredible talent and

toughness with their moves right on the asphalt."

Charlottesville's Trees on Fire captured the audience midway through the block party with their unique blend of genres. Sophomore Callum Boggs, a Charlottesville native, came to see friends in the band.

"I think having this block party is a good idea, but I don't think many [students] took advantage of it," said Boggs.

Boggs also participated in the ice cream-eating contest, sponsored by Kline's Dairy Bar. With cups full of frozen custard-style ice cream, nine contestants prepared for a possible brain freeze. Spoons ready at the start, many faces looked pained as they scooped up the treat.

Though he had never been to Kline's before, Boggs said now he cannot wait to visit the downtown location soon.

Senior Maggie Purdon rolled the cup between her hands to warm up her ice cream. The ice cream fanatic said she entered to challenge herself, but had never been to Kline's before.

"I think the block party is a good way to welcome students and make them feel

at home away from home," said freshman Kathleen Murphy, who purchased a CD from Trees on Fire. Coming from the Richmond area, she was excited to see a vibrant downtown area.

Freshman Yessenia Amaya also said she will probably go downtown again after seeing what it has to offer. "On the way here I saw a lot of places I had never seen before."

Popular Harrisonburg reggae band, The Greg Ward Project, concluded the block party. Students jamming to the music stood by Harrisonburg residents in front of the stage, with young children dancing to the beat.

Volunteering for the evening with brothers from Sigma Phi Epsilon, sophomore Thomas Pugh looked around as everyone enjoyed the lighthearted atmosphere.

"I haven't seen a person frowning yet," he said.

== “ ==  
I haven't seen a person  
frowning yet.  
-sophomore Thomas Pugh

== ” ==





# Comedy Central

By John Fitzgerald

A combination of music and interactive humor captivated an energetic audience

**LYRICS** flow from **Craig Robinson** during his comedic covers of popular songs. "Sweet Dreams" and "Take My Breath Away" were a couple of the songs Robinson made his own. *Photo by Natalie Wall*

**RETRIEVING** an autograph, sophomore **Lucy Romeo** gets a birthday present for her mother. "My mom is a huge fan of 'The Office' and owns every season. She loves Darryl," said Romeo. *Courtesy of Jake Thlewas*



The atmosphere was electric and the energy high as students packed the Memorial Hall auditorium, buzzing with anticipation. Just about every floor seat was filled, and people were even filing up to the balcony for the bird's eye view. A spotlight shone down on one standing microphone next to a shorter microphone placed in front of a keyboard. Somewhere in the audience, an enthusiastic student chanted, "WE WANT CRAIG!" Hundreds of others chimed in. At 8:14 p.m., Craig Robinson burst through the curtains to an uproar.

When the University Program Board (UPB) announced that Craig Robinson would be performing at the university on Sept. 13, many students didn't recognize the celebrity's name.

"Who's Craig Robinson?" wondered senior Walter Canter.

An actor and a stand-up comedian from Chicago, Robinson was best known for his recurring role as Darryl Philbin, the quirky warehouse foreman with the deadpan stare from the hit TV series, "The Office."

"Oh yeah, I love that show," said Canter. As it turned out, so did many other students.

In addition to small roles on other TV series, including "Friends" and "Arrested Development," Robinson appeared in several film comedies, including his role as an emotional club doorman in the popular 2007 film, "Knocked Up," with actor Seth Rogen. He worked with Rogen again as a sensitive hitman named Matheson on the 2008 cannabis-focused film, "Pineapple Express." With such a background, few could have expected the kind of show that was in store for them.

After a warm welcome, Robinson, a 6-foot-2-inch man built like a linebacker, silently took his seat at the keyboard and began playing the notes to a familiar childhood song. After some uncomfortable chuckling and awkward looking around, almost everyone began to participate. Robinson bounced around in his seat, enjoying himself.

"If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands,"





**FROM** behind his keyboard, Craig Robinson conducts a set that promotes audience participation. "It was interesting that he played the keyboard. It brought an element to stand-up comedy that you don't expect to see," said senior Theresa Egan. *Photo by Natalie Wall*

everyone sang. They clapped. As he continued into the second verse, the audience clapped again. "It's 'STOMP YOUR FEET,' motherf---ers!" Robinson hollered over the crowd, as he pounded down on the keys and stopped the music. Laughter trickled from the few people who heard him. "It's 'stomp your feet,' motherf---ers," he repeated in his soft speaking voice. Laughter exploded from the audience.

This kind of twisted humor was typical of Robinson's performance that night. He employed the ad-lib style of comedy seen on shows like "The Office" and "Arrested Development." Unlike most stand-up comedians, he did not appear to have a great deal of material prepared. Instead, he interacted with the audience. Robinson didn't even stand up, choosing rather to remain seated at the keyboard throughout the entire performance.

He eventually started playing soothing elevator music. "I bet this is what God's answering machine sounds like," he said in his soft voice that demanded to be heard. He resumed the tune. "Hi. It's God." He played on, swaying in his chair. "I know what you want. Call back." The crowd exploded with laughter.

After his act ended and he had run out of funny things to do on a keyboard, he asked the audience if a few people wanted to come on stage and sing in what he called "James Madison Idol." To his surprise, about eight people came rushing up, two of whom wanted to be dancers. Each of the others approached the microphone and sang a song of his or her choice while Robinson played the key-

board. When one student approached the microphone, a presumed friend screamed her name and Robinson reacted as if frightened by the blood-curdling yell. "Man, I thought for a second there I was going to have to jump in front of a bullet," said Robinson. He proceeded to imitate the young man's cry, shaping his hand into a gun and pointing it into the crowd.

One student began singing "Somewhere Over The Rainbow," but paused, having forgotten the rest of the words. Robinson leaned over and told her it was fine, just substitute the words "take your panties off," in reference to a joke made earlier in the night.

When the singing contest had ended, everyone left the stage except for one young lady—one of the dancers. She called into the audience and asked her boyfriend if she could give Robinson a kiss. Her boyfriend shouted back, "Go for it!" To everyone's surprise, she leaned over, grabbed hold of his face and kissed him right on the mouth. As if expecting this, Robinson pulled her in. Men hooted and catcalled, while ladies shook their heads in disbelief. When asked about it later during the question and answer portion, Robinson said nonchalantly, "Happens all the time."

Fans of "The Office" dominated the Q&A portion of the show, asking about the next season and what it was like to work with the show's hilarious cast. Several young women and one young man were curious about the show's star hunk, John Kryscinski. Robinson answered all questions, and even played the show's theme song upon request, rousing cheers from the audience. Others wanted to know if Robinson was staying in Harrisonburg for the night, and if he would come to their parties. After the questions, Robinson came down from the stage so people could meet him. The line stretched across the auditorium.

After the show, reactions varied. "It was good, but not great. Too much dead time," said senior Matthew Slater, referring to the lulls between jokes. Other reactions were more enthusiastic. "He exceeded my expectations. Superb!" said faculty member Dre Deleault. He may have not had to try very hard at four dollars a ticket—practically a steal for a comedian of Robinson's caliber—but the night was not about expectations, just laughs.





# Holiday In H'burg

By Rebecca Schneider

Fans packed the Convo to see pop-punk band Boys Like Girls

**W**ith Boys Like Girls headlining the Verizon Wireless Campus Tour made its very first stop at the university on Sept. 26. After spending a couple weeks at home in Boston, the four-member, pop-punk band hit the road for Harrisonburg.

"I guess we all had this dream to do this kind of stuff, [so] the fact that it's happening now is pretty awesome," said drummer John Keefe. "We get to experience college without the... college." Bassist Bryan Donahue added, "Without the homework!"

Boys Like Girls (BLG) received the most votes on a survey that University Program Board (UPB) released over the summer. "The student body's vote decides every major act that comes to the JMU campus; the UPB facilitates bringing that choice to campus," said senior Sean Santiago, vice president of marketing and communications for UPB. The organization met its goal of selling 1,600 tickets, not including sales from four days prior to the show. Many students jumped at the opportunity to see a great lineup of bands.

"I think it's really cool that JMU has organizations like UPB and 80 One Records who organize concerts like this," said junior Thomas Leahy, a musician who is involved in the regional music

industry.

As a special treat, local band The Friday Night Boys (FNB) opened the show at 8 p.m. Planning to go on a full-time tour next semester, singer/guitarist senior Andrew Goldstein and other members showed their Duke pride by wearing JMU T-shirts on stage. To get the crowd fired up, Goldstein announced, "JMU is the best place I've ever been to in my entire life," setting the mood for the rest of the show.

LIGHTS, born Valerie Poxleitner, took the stage next with her rhythmic and new-wave rock. The concert was the first day of her first tour, and she came from Toronto ready to rock out. When recording, she made all of her music using a computer and synthesizer, but while performing live she found it hard to be wonder woman. Accompanied by two musicians, LIGHTS had a ton of energy packed inside her small frame. Although most of the crowd members were not familiar with her songs, they still continued to clap and nod their heads along with the synthesized beats. Her new song, "Ice," got the crowd dancing. LIGHTS' energy helped build excitement for the main act.

Cute Is What We Aim For came on next, and the whole crowd

**STRUMMING** along to "Broken Man," lead guitarist Paul DiGiovanni plays in front of the college crowd. "We actually stole Paul fresh out of senior year in high school, so he never even had the option to go to college. We were just, like, 'Nope you're going on the road. Come on,'" said bassist Bryan Donahue. Photo by Natalie Wall





**SYNTHESIZING** the beat, LIGHTS opened for the main act and moved the crowd with her newest hit, "Ice." The concert was LIGHTS' first live performance on a major tour. Photo by Natalie Wall

stood up with enthusiasm. On their third tour together, the members of both BLG and Cute Is What We Aim For were very good friends, and the two bands complemented each other well. Cute Is What We Aim For played one of its well-known songs, "Situation," and talked about the 2008 election, encouraging students to vote and be the change. During the last song, "Practice Makes Perfect," Goldstein from FNB jumped in to sing a few lines.

After much anticipation, BLG came on at 10:30 p.m. With the seats and floor almost entirely filled, the band started with its hit "Hero/Heroine." Women screamed, fans sang along and the pit looked like a wave, with the mass of students on the floor jumping up and down in unison. People danced in their seats, while others moved closer toward the floor. Playing "Five Minutes To Midnight," "On Top of the World" and "Learning to Fall," the band thrived off the energy radiating from the crowd.

"I hope that we can maybe change a couple of lives, and if that happens, that's awesome," said Keefe. The band succeeded in energizing the students in the Convocation Center, leaving the stage sweaty and exhilarated after their hour-long performance.

The members of BLG were down-to-earth and laid back. "Well, we were just approached, you know, with the opportunity to do [the Verizon Wireless tour] and heard that Gym Class Heroes did it, and they all said it's a really good time so we figured, hey, why not? Let's do it," said Keefe. Through touring and radio play, BLG developed a devoted fan base within the past few years,

which was apparent in the many homemade "We Love Boys Like Girls" T-shirts worn by concert-goers. Some fans were even more creative. "We have this girl that comes to our shows, she's here and she, uh, she makes, cakes, in the shape of penises," said Keefe. "And I mean, that's a little bizarre. And then she wants us to eat them. And it's like..." he trailed off, laughing.

Whether odd or not, the members of BLG enjoyed meeting their fans. "I think my favorite [part] is that we get to, you know, play in front of kids every night, play music that we worked really hard on, and get to meet so many different people, and you get to do things like help people and stuff, which is really, really nice," said Keefe. The band responded to its Facebook and MySpace messages as much as possible, staying loyal to fans. When on tour, "the majority of our afternoons really consist of interviews and meet-and-greets, whether it's through a fan club, or on this tour Verizon is setting up meet-and-greets," said Donahue. They did not seem to mind the press. "It's cool... who doesn't like to talk about themselves?" reasoned Keefe.

The members of BLG had a reason to brag. From playing their first show in a small hall in southern New Hampshire, their hits landed them radio time and headlining tours. "Practice, and if you want it bad enough, it can happen," advised Keefe. BLG was the proof that his advice was solid. With no regrets and another successful concert under the band's belt, "it's been a long, fun ride," concluded Donahue.





# TRENDY TASTE

A new downtown restaurant attracted students with its originality

It was a cool and quiet night in downtown Harrisonburg. The neon sign above the door glowed with a bright Clementine hue. Inside, senior Walter Canter accurately described the mood.

"The atmosphere is friggin' sweet! It feels like you've suddenly been zipped from Harrisonburg to some sophisticated, metropolitan hangout."

Strange and vibrant art covered the walls. The entire back wall was painted a bright pattern of yellow and orange, with scattered blotches of crimson. Lighting was dim, and grew noticeably dimmer as the night went on. A candle was lit at the center of each table to provide a soft glow.

Although not very spacious in terms of seating, Clementine offered a great place for conversation, as long as you didn't mind being close. The menu, eclectic and classy, appeared somewhat confusing at first, as every item was listed in lowercase letters with commas between the side dishes. Each new line was a new item, which wasn't immediately apparent as the items were right on top of one another.

The beer selection was quite diverse, but the draft beers were limited in comparison to the wide array of bottled beer.

Clementine boasted ales, Belgians, lagers, pilsners, stouts, and porters, and for heavier drinkers, there was the Delirium Tremens Belgian Strong Pale Ale. For customers interested in a non-alcoholic beverage, the water for the table was served in a fancy bottle.

Slow-turning fans spotted the ceiling, and the speakers were tucked up in the rafters. A diverse playlist poured from the speakers, ranging from the urban techno beats of Ratatat to the soulful tones of Al Green. The music, along with the visual atmosphere, helped set a tone that could only be described as cool.

As an entrée, the Grilled Harris Ranch Steak Medallions were a popular choice. Steak medallions, a whipped and delicious mound of potatoes, and a pile of fresh green beans were only 14 dollars. The portions seemed dainty on first glance, but ended up feeling just right. The desserts, however, were a different story. "Fill up on your entrée and order some drinks," said senior Matthew Slater, "because with the desserts, you won't get the same bang for your buck."

By 9:30 p.m., the bar had just about filled up—but not due entirely to the appeal of a meal and drinks. While there was unique food, music and art at Clementine every night of the week, Tuesday nights held their own appeal. At 9:30 p.m., emcee Josh Diamond led team trivia night at Clementine.

"Trivia night is definitely the best night at clementine's," said senior Ilana Burger. "We formulated the perfect team made up of friends from all different majors with the theory that



**TEAMING** up for trivia night, students test their knowledge of the obscure. The café held trivia competitions every Tuesday night for teams with up to six players.

*Photo by Erin Bender*



we'd have every category covered...but the questions were so hard! We never ever won, but it was so much fun to make up answers and make each other laugh. When we did know the answers and we actually won points, we'd celebrate with delicious drinks...actually we did that when we lost too."

Clementine Café was host to many different artists throughout the year, from musicians to amateur filmmakers. The cafe consistently sought "all types of creative folks that want to engage us and utilize our space." Bands from areas ranging from Oklahoma to Philadelphia and cities as close as Charlottesville regularly appeared on stage.

The bar itself was handsome and unique. The metalwork over the lights and all the carpentry on the bar was hand-crafted by the owner and a few of his early waiters.

The restaurant's bathroom was divided into two parts by a glass wall that separated the toilet from view. The sink, so unusual that it had operating

instructions, consisted of a sleek faucet above a raised, flat linoleum square.

Another bar in the basement provided chairs for lounging. Thursday nights attracted large crowds with "Rock Band," a video game that allowed players to realize their rock star dreams by means of guitar, bass, drum pads and a microphone. The console was hooked to a big screen television and wired to the room's speakers, acting as the sole source of music for the downstairs bar. Patrons prayed the players had some musical talent to share.

Clementine Café took over Harrisonburg's Strand Theater in 2007 and quickly gained popularity with many students as well as community members. Although most downtown restaurants aimed to provide customers with satiable and appetite-appealing cuisine, Clementine stepped up the ante with a mix of modern fare, music, games, art and local community events. The owners of Clementine Café prided themselves on "reclaiming" their "cultural integrity."

**ENTICED** by Clementine's eclectic offerings, a group of friends peruses the menu. The restaurant changed its entrees often to keep customers coming back. *Photo by Erin Bender*

**STUDENTS** and Harrisonburg residents relax while tuning in to the Appalachian State game. The lounge at Clementine's boasted a 72" TV, used for Monday movie nights and extensive coverage of the 2008 election debates. *Photo by Megan Mori*





# Safety First

By Jeff Wasserboehr

Public safety responded to growing concerns around Harrisonburg

**STANDING** on the sidelines at the football game against Appalachian State University, a university cop keeps guard. With the recent increase in dangerous activity, cops took extra safety measures, especially during a highly anticipated event like the game against the Dukes' top rival. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*

**EQUIPPED** with safety gear, a bicycle cop patrols the tailgating scene before the family weekend football game. Bicycle cops frequently showed up at tailgates to monitor students' alcohol consumption. *Photo by Julia Simcox*



The air stood still after the accident right by the intersection of Bluestone Drive and Duke Drive. A crowd of students gathered around, hands cupped over mouths, eyes wide with disbelief. Sophomore Bria Jahrling had been hit by a silver Audi while crossing the street. The accident occurred during a red light and left Jahrling in serious condition. She was transferred to the University of Virginia Medical Center, where she was released nearly two weeks later.

After a missed semester, recovery at a rehabilitation center and several cognitive therapy sessions, Jahrling revisited what happened on campus in January 2008. "I never felt anger towards the school," she said. "I'm also not mad at the driver. I know it wasn't intentional. I guess more than anything, I was just bitter that someone could be so careless."

Careless: the word that was so often associated with college students' driving.

Tiffany Lynn Martin, a senior who had also encountered a similar type of accident, agreed. "People are just naturally impatient at lights, they see green and automatically go without stopping to look or think." Martin's accident occurred while crossing the street on the corner of Bluestone Drive and South Main Street. The traffic light had turned green simultaneously as the cross signal for pedestrians to walk lit up, and the car turning left neglected to yield to the pedestrian. Luckily, in Martin's situation, a bicycle policeman saw the entire incident and was able to provide immediate assistance.

Accidents like Jahrling's and Martin's happened annually on the large campus. Both students and faculty members worked hard to improve the traffic patterns on campus.

"I also think it might help to have traffic guards watch areas where there are no signals that indicate when a pedestrian can cross," said Jahrling. "If there are people enforcing safe driving, drivers will be more likely to drive with caution and awareness of pedestrians."

Traffic control was only one of the many elements to consider when it came to keeping the university a safe place. Incidences of drunk driving, fear of gangs and drugs, and the looming prospect of a serious schoolwide attack were also things that the university took into consideration. The campus was in the never-ending process of preparing for the worst and hoping for the best.

The university had its own police force incorporated into the public safety plan. Not only were there cruisers patrolling the campus, there were bicycle officers also on force.

The bicycle patrollers became increasingly prevalent around campus. Their role was significant; they applied a stealth approach to the policing game. Patrol officer Scott Drugo was recently featured in Rocktown Weekly.

"Typically we have some sort of excitement," said Drugo. It was a rare night when he did not have to pedal hard for one





**IGNORING** the signal, students cross the intersection between Bluestone Drive and Duke Drive to get to class during a busy time of the day. Careful attention to traffic signals was of the utmost importance at this dangerous intersection near where sophomore Bria Jahrling was hit by a car. Photo by Amy Gwaltney

“ I also think it might help to have traffic guards watch areas where there are no signals that indicate when a pedestrian can cross. If there are people enforcing safe driving, drivers will be more likely to drive with caution and awareness of pedestrians. ” —sophomore Bria Jahrling

reason or another.

There were six bicycle patrollers, and they enforced safety by gaining access to sidewalks, dirt roads and tough terrains that were otherwise inaccessible by larger police vehicles. The bicycle patrol covered land across the city of Harrisonburg, and predominately served to break up fights and enforce alcohol violations.

Just as with other college campuses across the nation, there was always an issue brought up about alcohol. Though underage drinking was a national issue, innovative new programs were being accepted at the university. The idea was to educate students and faculty about the potential negative repercussions that came into play with student drinking.

Senior Dara Silbert helped in the establishment of a “designated driving program” called SafeRides. What truly made this idea remarkable was that it was absolutely free—no cost to students.

“We would never ask for money or charge anyone. We understand as fellow students that money is an issue,” said Silbert. The SafeRides cars started driving students in February 2007. As the name implied, the organization offered a service to students who were intoxicated or otherwise incapable of driving. It garnered much success since its initiation.

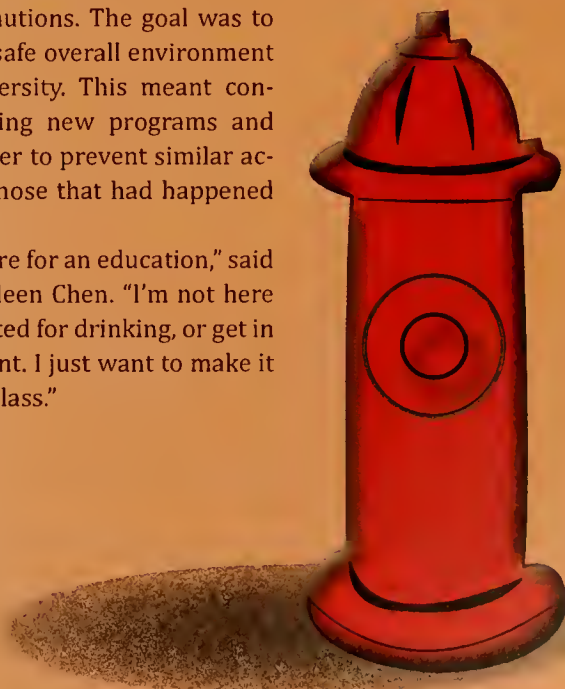
“SafeRides is most definitely growing,” said Silbert. “We have a little less than 200 members, which is the most we’ve ever had.” As the campus constantly expanded, so did SafeRides. The induction of the idea into the school community was well-received as it continued to prevent both potential accidents and lawsuits week-end after weekend. The offer was campuswide. “SafeRides is a non-judgmental organization that just wants to help provide a safer community,” said Silbert.

Safety was a concept that was constantly being remanded and updated. Tougher laws on alcohol, stronger police forces and traffic updates were all necessary in improving the quality of life on campus.

In an effort to prevent incidents like the Virginia Tech shooting in Blacksburg, the university updated its emergency communication system. Considering the fact that social interaction was becoming more immediate every day, the university played into this concept, utilizing the knowledge to its advantage. Through the updated emergency communication system, students had the option of receiving crucial information by text message, voice mail or blast e-mail. With the power of roommates, large social circles and a total schoolwide population of over 16,000, this made obtaining critical information easy. Whether it was through personal cell phones or by word of mouth, the information was readily available.

As the campus grew larger in both acreage and population, administration responded with additional safety precautions. The goal was to maintain a safe overall environment at the university. This meant constantly adding new programs and ideas in order to prevent similar accidents to those that had happened in the past.

“I come here for an education,” said senior Cathleen Chen. “I’m not here to get accosted for drinking, or get in a car accident. I just want to make it to my next class.”







**THE** first lap is the "survivorship" lap, which honors the survivors of cancer. The university raised more than \$175,000 for Relay for Life, with donations made in honor of cancer victims and survivors. Photo by Leslie Cavin

**C**elebrate. Remember. Fight Back.

As Relay for Life's mantra, those words brought hope to survivors and others affected by cancer. Relay was the American Cancer Society's largest fundraiser for cancer research.

The university gathered at Bridgeforth Stadium on a rainy Saturday evening in April 2008 to celebrate the lives of those who had survived, to remember those who had not, and to fight for a cure. The theme was "Relaywood: Lights, Camera, Action." Teams set up tents on Godwin Field and decorated for the theme with Hollywood images.

At the opening ceremony, a survivor spoke and told her own story of battling cancer before joining the survivors for a "survivorship" lap around the track.

"The fact that we can bring in so many different kinds of people, but all for the same cause is just amazing," remarked junior Janessa Muraco, co-chair of the university's Relay For Life 2009. "We are all fighting towards one cure, and to build a community together like that is incredible."

Activities during the evening kept the celebration going. The acappella group, The Madison Project, performed, and Buffalo Wild Wings held the highly anticipated Blazin' Wings challenge where participants raced to see who could finish all the wings in their basket first.

Other events at Relay included a crazy hat lap, a three-legged race, a pie-eating contest and the popular Miss Relay Pageant, where teams nominated a male member to dress

up in drag and participate in a swimsuit competition, talent and evening wear contest, and a Q&A session.

Later in the evening, the Luminarias Ceremony took place. Members of the Relay committee set up bags on the steps of the stadium that spelled out "JMU" and "HOPE." As the luminarias were lit, silence fell over the crowd as they remembered those who had lost their battle with cancer.

Planning for Relay started months ahead of time. The Relay organization had seven different committees that met throughout the year: survivorship, on-sites, donations, ceremonies, registration and accounting, publicity and luminarias. The survivorship committee contacted survivors in the area and invited them to share their experiences. The on-sites committee got local groups to perform the night of Relay and thought of ideas for the special laps and team competitions.

Since Relay was run through a nonprofit organization, the donations committee was in charge of contacting businesses for monetary, food and equipment donations. The ceremonies committee

**PLAYING** off the theme of "Relaywood," a team decorates its "Hollywood locker room" with sports banners and signs. Although each participant received a Relay for Life shirt, teams often opted to create their own. Photo by Leslie Cavin





# Walk for Hope

Students fought off sleep to raise funds for cancer research

By Steph Synoracki

handled opening and closing ceremonies, as well as contacting the event's speakers. Members of the committee were also the emcees. Registration and accounting took care of money and made sure teams were registered properly. The publicity committee worked to promote Relay and helped with Cancer Awareness Week. The members of the luminarias committee filled the bags with sand, set them up on the stadium steps, and lit the bags.

Relay would not have happened without the co-chairs, who were "really the backbones for Relay for Life and played a vital role in the communication between the American Cancer Society and the JMU Relay for Life," said graduate Alicia Romano, co-chair of Relay for Life 2008.

The university had almost 200 teams participate in the event and raised \$174,175.80 for cancer research, earning them the No. 5 spot in the nation for schools whose enrollment fell between 16,000 and 24,999 students.

Some participants had been directly affected by cancer, while others just wanted to help the cause. Sophomore Antoine Ward participated "to honor and celebrate my mom who is a breast cancer survivor."

As morning came, many were still walking around the track with friends. Participants believed that Relay was a worthwhile event and they enjoyed bringing the community together to fight for a cure.

"Every year Relay gets bigger and better because more and more students become aware of what a great event it is," said Romano. "I have great faith that next year's Relay is going to continue on that path."



ENTERTAINING participants  
Nicholson and Rousseau  
plays a set in the middle  
of the rainy night. Other  
activities throughout the  
night included contests,  
games and a blow-up  
obstacle course. Photo by  
Leslie Cavin



# Behind The Scenes

By Matt Johnson

Housekeepers found joy in interacting with students, despite messy conditions

**S**talls stocked with toilet paper, clean showers, and empty trashcans were often taken for granted by students living on campus. Many only realized the hard work done by the housekeeping staff once the weekend rolled around and the students were left to fend for themselves.

At 4 a.m. on weekdays, while most students were fast asleep in their beds, housekeeper Floyd Reedy began his day. As students rolled over in search of a more comfortable position, Reedy was already on his way to work. While a few students hit the snooze button on their alarms, Reedy started his long eight-and-a-half-hour workday as a member of the university's large housekeeping team.

The housekeepers began their day of cleaning at 7:30 a.m. Reedy, who had worked for the housekeeping department for 11 years, began his days cleaning the bathrooms before he moved on to vacuuming, mopping and cleaning the trash rooms.

One unusual aspect of the job that many students might not have known about was what Reedy referred to as "poop patrol."

"Whenever there's football games, we go over to the stadium and [clean] the stadium," said Reedy. "Pigeon poop. We're on poop patrol. We get to go over and get [poop] off of the chairs and stuff."

While cleaning the stadium was not the best part of the job for Reedy and fellow housekeeper Tana Lam, the worst part of the job was actually when the residents moved out, which Lam referred to as "summer clean up." Housekeepers went through all the rooms in every dorm and did what they referred to as "totaling," cleaning the rooms and getting them ready for the next set of residents.

"Summer clean up's the worst," said Reedy. "We work harder when [the students] are gone."

When the university was in session, one of Reedy's and Lam's favorite parts of the job was interacting with students. Although Lam joked about how sometimes it was not so bad when certain residents left,

Reedy said that without the residents, his job would have been dull.

"I like [housekeeping], I like being around the students. I don't mind the job. As far as the cleaning part and working around the students, I like that part the best of all. If I didn't get to interact with them, it wouldn't be worth coming in," said Reedy.

Debra Bogan, a housekeeper in her seventh year, agreed that the residents played a big part in what made her job enjoyable.

"I love my boys," said Bogan. "They're so sweet and good. They're very polite. They're always saying 'Good morning' and 'Have a good day.'"

If some students' housekeepers didn't show up, the consequences were severe. Trash lined the hallways and scum built up in the bathrooms. Freshman Katherine Walthall could not imagine life without housekeepers.

**PROUDLY** finishing her bathroom duties, Debbie Bogan mops her way out of the Treehouse bathroom. Bathrooms that were not accessible to housekeeping staff, such as those in Rockingham Hall, were cleaned by the residents sharing the bathroom.  
Photo by Natalie Wall



**WITH** their many tools at hand, Donna Smith and Debbie Morris get ready to clean up the Zane-Showker vending area. Aside from residence halls, housekeeping staff was also in charge of keeping academic and administrative buildings spotless.  
Photo by Natalie Wall



"I'm not good at cleaning bathrooms. [The dorm would] probably get pretty messy and neglected," said Walthall. "I guess we just expect [a clean dorm] and we don't really think about it. It's just clean when we get back [from classes] during the regular week."

Sophomore Sara Hollands agreed that life without a housekeeper would have been inconvenient and dirty. She realized that many students took their housekeepers for granted.

"I appreciate what they do. Some people take it for granted because they expect it to be clean. Cleaning after people isn't a fun thing and I respect them [for it]," said Hollands.

Both Walthall and Hollands thought it was important to acknowledge their housekeepers. Hollands said she always said "Hello," because ignoring someone would have been rude. Walthall agreed that being a friendly resident eventually paid off in the end.

"I always say 'Hi' and have a conversation with her about my weekend and I ask her how she is doing," said Walthall. "They're people too and you shouldn't ignore them. They could end up helping you out in the long run."

Walthall's theory might have been true. Reedy enjoyed cleaning his dorms because he was able to have a good relationship with his residents. He said that by the end of the year he knew his residents and they knew him. Also, Reedy thought that most students knew how much work housekeepers put into making the dorms livable.

Having worked in housekeeping for so long, both Reedy and Lam had their share of good and bad experiences, from residents deciding not to use the toilet but the floor instead, to walls covered in smashed oranges and shaving cream.

"One year they put peanut butter on the toilet seat so you couldn't sit on it," said Reedy. "The bad thing was that it had [whole] peanuts in the peanut butter."

Although some college pranks seemed funny, others crossed over into vandalism, which caused a mess—a mess the housekeepers had to clean up.

"They just had an incident over [in my dorm] ... [residents] threw the pool balls through the wall, they just stood back there and threw it right through the wall on the other side, and then took one of the pool balls and put it in the toilet, and then the toilet wouldn't flush right," said Reedy. "So they finally took the toilet off the floor and it had a pool ball [stuck] in the toilet."

Whether it was vacuuming the hallway or cleaning peanut butter off a toilet seat, housekeeping was not easy. But without their housekeepers, students would have found it hard to survive and would soon have realized that the dorm did not clean itself. All the housekeepers asked for in return was a smile, a friendly greeting, and a thanks—and that the toilets were used for their intended purpose.



“  
One year they put peanut butter on the  
toilet seat so you couldn't sit on it. The bad  
thing was that it had [whole] peanuts in  
the peanut butter.  
-housekeeper Floyd Reedy

**SWEEPING** his way down the stairs, Gary Falls makes his way past the fifth floor of Eagle Hall. Cleaning the stairwells was a small daily part of the housekeepers' long days. Photo by Natlie Wall





# Fitness Made Simple

By Casey Smith

Physical activities on campus made staying healthy a breeze

For students who craved an exciting workout regime, the university offered endless ways to stay active. Students had the opportunity to be involved in a variety of organizations that focused on exercise and outdoor activity, along with free membership to the University Recreation Center (UREC). Varsity, club and intramural sports were popular throughout the year, with different levels that catered to different athletic abilities.

"Frisbee golf became my only form of exercise my freshman year," said junior Connor Birkner. "It was so intense and I made a lot of friends at the same time."

Freshman Kieran Rice said, "Soccer keeps me in shape all year. It also keeps me motivated to run during the offseason."

Varsity sports brought out the biggest crowds, but although they were most popular among spectators, other students enjoyed playing sports at a lower intensity. Club sports had the reputation of being more laid-back, although competition was still a large part of the programs. Teams traveled to other schools to compete throughout the year.

"I started participating in Club Swimming with a few of my friends," said senior Clare Flach. "I was training for a triathlon and being in the water for at least four days a week really helped me get into shape."

Students used the pool at UREC to swim casually, to train for meets or water polo tournaments, or just to play water basketball with a few friends. Lifeguards and EMTs were always scheduled in case of a problem.

Classes such as kickboxing, yoga, Pilates, step and cycling were available at UREC. Students could sign up for classes online 24 hours in advance, choosing days and times that were convenient for them.

"Step classes worked well with my schedule and they were a ton of fun," said junior Liz Town. "It worked my entire body and always got my heart rate up, but I could also socialize with my friends at down points."

Aside from formal classes, students who just wanted to work up a sweat and get their hearts racing could go to UREC at almost any time of the day. UREC was open both early and late to allow students the flexibility of going before their day officially started, or when they were done with classes and studying. All forms of equipment were available in the weight rooms for people of different training ability and levels.

"I spent most of my time in the weight room downstairs working on building muscle," said senior Will Pearce. "There were times in the day when the gym was more crowded than others, but once I learned to work around those times, it was easy for me to get in the gym and get a good workout in."

UREC also offered programs outside of its main facility, including group trips that allowed students to broaden their horizons. Rock climbing, caving, hiking, horseback riding and camping trips were all organized by UREC throughout the year. Students could sign up online or in the building if they dis-



**MENTALLY** preparing himself, senior Zach Jones gets ready to bench another 90-pound set. The downstairs weight room at UREC was popular among many of the males at the university. Photo by Amy Gwaltney



covered a trip that sparked their interests.

"I went camping with a group of students over a weekend in the Shenandoah National Park," said senior Emily Hoffman. "UREC provided any equipment that we did not already have."

Students who did not want to attend an organized event had the opportunity to get a group of friends together and go camping on their own. Hiking and bike trails were popular among students who wanted to take advantage of the outdoors.

"My friends and I all got together one weekend and decided to go camping and hiking for one day and night," said sophomore Adam Hicks. "We used tents that we had brought from home and went hiking for an entire Saturday. It was a great way to explore the valley."

"I started mountain biking a lot my freshman year and then got all my friends involved," said junior Andy Koch. "We usually go to George Washington National Forest or Reddish Knob. There are some great trails out there."

Students got involved in many other outdoor activities around campus. Some rode their bikes to class, walked to work, or took their dogs for a daily stroll down Port Republic Road.

"I rode my bike to class whenever the weather allowed me to," said senior Eileen Graham. "I was able to get my exercise in without making an extra trip to the gym."

Senior Ali Anderson acknowledged "it was a long walk from Devon Lane every day, but it was worth it when the weather was nice. I felt refreshed when I made it to my classes because the walk always woke me up in the morning."

Students also enjoyed the parks near campus. Tennis courts, basketball courts, tracks and playgrounds were available for public use around Harrisonburg.

"I took my dog for a walk every weekend at Purcell Park



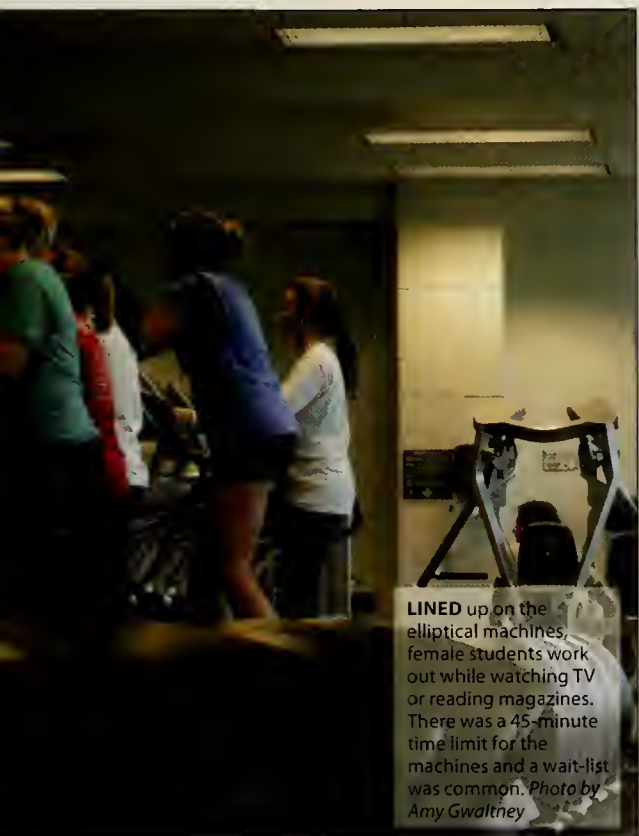
**ON** the multi-use court at UREC, senior Mike Richardson steals the ball from senior Nathan Dann. Volleyball and basketball pick-up games occurred often in the gymnasium. Photo by Amy Gwaltney

when it wasn't too cold," said junior Tiffany Burbic. "The track made it easy for me to make my way around without my dog getting into any trouble."

Students looked off campus to find classes offered in the city too. Dance studios, karate classes and cage fighting were all available throughout Harrisonburg. Less intense dancing could be found at local restaurants on certain nights of the week for anyone interested.

"I found Dancing with Karen [a ballroom, Latin and swing dance studio] last year when I was looking for a place to continue dancing," said junior Andrea Mueller. "I started dancing when I was six and have been doing it ever since. I was scared that I wouldn't find a place to dance when I came to school."

The university provided students with a variety of opportunities to stay active around campus, from walking to class to relieving some stress with a karate lesson.



**LINED** up on the elliptical machines, female students work out while watching TV or reading magazines. There was a 45-minute time limit for the machines and a wait-list was common. Photo by Amy Gwaltney



**ENJOYING** a sunny day, junior Mary Shindler tosses a Frisbee with a friend on the Quad. Students found the Quad a relaxing place to hang out with friends, play with dogs and have a catch. Photo by Amy Gwaltney



IN celebration of 100 years, students, faculty and staff gather on the Quad for an unusual picture. Participants were allowed to keep their gold or purple placard as a souvenir. Photo courtesy of JMU Photography Services



**BENT** over his keyboard in concentration, stand-in keyboardist Robert Smith accompanies Mae during their set. Mae's original keyboardist left the band in 2007, so Smith stepped in and toured with the band when necessary. Photo by Rebecca Schneider

“  
The centennial is important because it marks a span of time in which JMU has grown so much. But it isn't the finish line because there's so much more to see and so many more places to grow.  
—junior Candace Avalos  
”



**EXTENDING** nearly to the end of the Quad, students wait in line to pick up their tickets to the free Mae concert. Dear Dear, a band formed by university students, opened the concert put on as part of the centennial celebration. Photo by Rebecca Schneider



# 100 Years To Remember

By Caitlin Harrison

The Centennial highlighted university history in a weeklong celebration

“One of the first things I remember hearing when I was visiting JMU the summer before my freshman year was that I would witness the centennial,” said junior Candace Avalos. “It felt awesome to know that I was going to partake in such an important time in history where we can celebrate our progress over 100 years.”

Students present during the 2007-2008 academic year were fortunate enough to be a part of a historical celebration. The centennial celebration began on Monday, March 10 with a community university reception in Memorial Hall. The reception was by invitation only, and it was in celebration of the local support for the placement of the university in Harrisonburg when it was first founded.

The Crazy Centennial Celebration Commons Day took place on the Commons midweek and was put on by the University Program Board (UPB). Students could get temporary spray tattoos, purple snow cones and university themed drinks. After the Commons Day, students made their way over to the Quad for the “All Together One Hundred” photograph. Seniors received gold placards, while the underclassmen, staff, faculty and alumni received purple placards. The students holding purple cards outlined the gold ‘100’ that was created by the seniors holding up their cards. A few students held up other objects, like a skateboard or a different colored T-shirt, in hopes of standing out from the crowd in the photo. The photo was taken from the top of a ladder at the front of the Quad, and also from a plane that flew over the Quad numerous times.

Senior Jeremy Winston created a Facebook group for the photo. “Being there for the picture leaves a historical mark in your memory as well as on the campus,” said Winston. “I created the group so I could show off the appreciation and pride that exists for this institution. Not only was I standing next to my fellow students, I was also standing next to staff, faculty and members of

the Harrisonburg community. I think it is special that we all could come together as a whole to celebrate exactly what the ‘I was there!’ card says: All Together 100.”

Wednesday’s events concluded with a faculty emeritus reception, which was a formal unveiling of the emeritus bricks on the west side of Carrier Library. University President Linwood H. Rose; Dr. Joanna Carr, the senior vice president of University Advancement; and Nancy O’Hare, the president of the JMU Emeriti Association, all spoke at the ceremony.

The Madison Cup Debates took place Thursday, March 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. The James Madison Day Commemorative Debate took place annually during Madison Week. It was open to any college, according to graduate Claire Evans, a public relations major who helped promote the debate. Each of the participating six pairs argued for or against the debate topic: whether the United States should chart a new course toward peace in the Middle East. The university’s debate team selected the topic based on issues that affected the U.S. The debate pair from Johns Hopkins University, who argued the opposing side of the topic, was awarded the Madison Cup and \$5,000 on Friday during the final round of the debate.

Friday, March 14 was officially James Madison Day, and was stacked with centennial events. Some events, like the Centennial Campaign Luncheon and the Dingleline and Johnston Portrait Unveiling, were by invitation only.

Governor Tim Kaine spoke in the morning at the Convocation Center and delivered the Centennial Address to students, faculty, staff and Harrisonburg residents. Friday afternoon, guests were invited to attend the dedication of the new statue that was placed in front of the College of Integrated Sciences and Technology building. The statue depicted a larger-than-life-sized James Madison, holding a quill and a piece of paper. Bruce and Lois Forbes, class of 1964, donated the statue.

Saturday’s events consisted of fireworks and a concert. Saturday morning was Madison Fest, a centennial celebration event for students and residents of the Harrisonburg community.

In the evening, a concert was held in the Wilson Hall Auditorium. Students began to line up for Mae and the opening band Dear Dear starting at 3:30 p.m., and the concert began at 6:30 p.m. Wilson Hall was not packed to capacity, but students enjoyed the eye-catching backgrounds and slideshows the bands used during the show. Mae played some of their popular songs, including “Summertime,” “Suspension” and “Embers and Envelopes.” The centennial week concluded on Saturday evening with fireworks and hot chocolate outside the Festival Conference and Student Center.

“The centennial is important because it marks a span of time in which JMU has grown so much,” said Avalos. “But it isn’t the finish line because there’s so much more to see and so many more places to grow.”





# Going Green

By Steph Synoracki

Students, faculty and staff took initiatives to become more environmentally friendly



As many students arrived on campus for the fall semester, they noticed the changes to the campus environment.

These changes, both subtle and obvious, were part of the university's initiative to participate in the "Go Green" phenomenon that seemed to have taken over the nation.

One of the most notable changes students found was in two of the university's dining facilities. Both D-Hall and Mrs. Greens went "trayless" to help conserve water and the energy spent by washing so many trays on a daily basis.

Students brought their concern for the environment to the university's attention, according to Dining Services Director Stephanie Hoshower. President Linwood H. Rose took the comments to heart and designed a program to make the university a "greener" campus.

Rose organized the Institute for Stewardship of The Natural World to aide in preserving natural resources and helping the local environment. This program, led by Executive Director Christie-Joy Brodrick Hartman, was divided up into five core areas: awareness, education and research, operations, campus accessibility, and policies and practices. Each committee was in



**STANDING** thigh-deep in muck, senior Jeff Joyce fishes out a TV. EARTH club spent an afternoon in September removing trash from the pond in the Aboretum. Photo by Megan Mori





**SENIOR** Alissa Walsh, junior Justine O'Neill, and freshman Meredith Routt empty containers of pond water before placing them in a trash bag. Volunteers wore waders and boots to protect their pants and shoes from pond water and mud on the banks. *Photo by Megan Mori*

charge of developing initiatives and strategies relative to its focus area. The organization worked to provide environmental stewardship at the local level as well as regionally, nationally and internationally.

The institute planned to build a new Leadership in Environmental Energy and Design (LEED) certified dining facility on the east side of campus. In order for the building to be LEED-certified, it was required to use "recycled and sustainable materials in the [construction]," be energy efficient, and meet certain landscaping qualifications, according to Hoshower. The new green dining facility was planned to open in the fall of 2009.

Hoshower noted that the university took on many "initiatives to reduce [its] ecological footprint." In all of the dining facilities, environmentally friendly reusable bags were available for purchase. These specially designed bags were used to carry food back to the dorms or apartments instead of the plastic bags that were previously the only option. Java City and Starbucks on campus also helped in the effort by offering Fair Trade coffee, which supported sustainable and equitable trading relationships.

At the beginning of each year, students flooded D-Hall to pick up the new reusable mug, designed around recycling. Eco-friendly efforts seemed to be everywhere. Dining Services bought products from local growers as much as possible. Some members of the student government association went to an apple orchard and hand-picked apples that were served in D-Hall.

Some of the more subtle environmental changes had been in effect since the previous year. All university buses ran on



**SHALLOW** waters hide litter at the edge of the pond, causing volunteers to keep their eyes peeled for sunken objects. Although Earth Week in April was EARTH club's main event, club members kept busy in the community throughout the year. *Photo by Megan Mori*



**DANGLING** garbage from her gloved hand, junior Justine O'Neill pauses to show off her find. EARTH club members also participated in a similar cleanup day at Blue Hole the same weekend. *Photo by Megan Mori*



“As a university, an institution of higher learning, we are a model for how society should be, or how it could be. It is up to us to show society what it can mean to be sustainable.”

—senior Marley Green

biodiesel fuel that was better for the air. Other university vehicles used an ethanol blend. Incandescent campus lights were replaced with fluorescent lights and low-flush toilets and urinals were installed. With all of these changes, Rose's plan was to make the university a more eco-friendly campus and encourage students to actively participate in the initiative.

“I think it is really great that JMU is taking the initiative and going green, said junior Liz Towson. “They are making major and minor changes around campus from new green construction to going trayless in D-Hall. And as much as I dislike [not having] trays, it has given me the opportunity to contribute and do my part.”

Sophomore Andrew Piske felt the same way. “JMU is making a worthy and admirable effort to make the campus greener and the university's concern is very apparent to the students.”

The university hoped to work with the City of Harrisonburg to make a compost mixture that was more environmentally friendly. The mixture comprised the university's food, waste and lawn and tree clippings. The compost was used in landscaping on campus. The Institute wanted all of “campus waste fryer oil to be recycled into a feedstock for biodiesel fuel production,” said Hoshower. This biodiesel fuel would then have been used to run university buses.

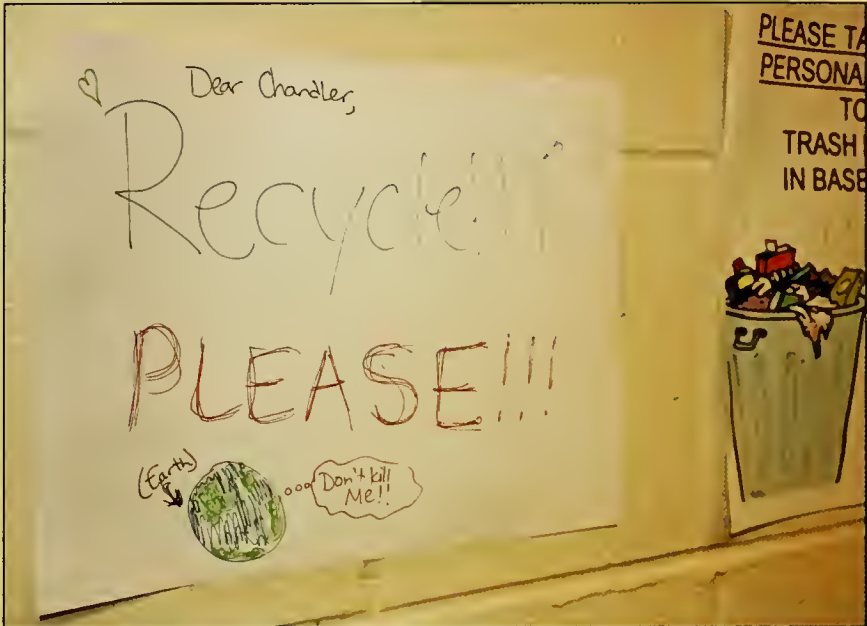
The university also continued to build a relationship with farmers in the Harrisonburg area. Rose believed that it was important to realize that actions would have an impact on the future; the natural resources that were preserved would last far into the future.

Marley Green, student representative to the board of visitors, presented an idea for a student center for sustainability. Here, students and the community would be able to “explore all the ways they can reduce their environmental footprint,” said Green.

To help, Hoshower suggested that students use the “recycle” mug, buy used textbooks, purchase Fair Trade coffee from Java City and Starbucks, and re-



**A POSTER** in Chandler Hall's trash room reminds residents to recycle. The university participated in RecycleMania, an annual 10-week competition held from mid-January to late March to promote waste reduction. Photo by Kim Lofgren



cycle. Hoshower also suggested that students check out "green" Web sites that provided tips for how each citizen could do his or her part to help the environment.

"On a campus our size, we have an opportunity to make a significant impact on what goes into the waste stream and how much energy and water is used. The university participates in efforts because it's the right thing to do, not because it's the latest trend," said Hoshower. She also believed that if the uni-

versity could impact the students to carry out the green message, they could better influence future leaders.

Green also thought it was extremely important for the university to be part of the "Go Green" effort because "as a university, an institution of higher learning, we are a model for how society should be, or how it could be. It is up to us to show society what it can mean to be sustainable." He suggested that students welcome the idea of biking, walking or taking a bus to campus more often.

"We need to reduce the amount that we buy, consume, and throw away," said Green. If every student did that, they would be doing their part to help the environment.

All of the efforts that the university employed "will ultimately result in changing our culture, community, and campus to a whole new definition of environmental stewardship," said Hoshower, all the more reason to continue the commitment throughout the university to help the environment.



**FRESHMAN** Meredith Routt digs around in shallow water to retrieve a piece of trash. Aside from cleaning up areas of campus, EARTH club focused on improving the university's environmental record with regards to areas including sustainability and recycling. Photo by Megan Mori



By Beth Principi

# Pay It Forward

The brother of Columbine victim promoted small acts of kindness



**BRAINSTORMING** ideas to implement Rachel's ideas, Friends of Rachel members plan their goals for the year. The university's group aimed to start a chain reaction of kindness.

Photo by Shoimo Allen

**C**raig Scott opened his message by saying he did not hate the two young men who murdered his sister and two best friends. The audience sat in silence.

As a survivor of the Columbine High School massacre, Scott spoke with kindness and compassion at the Convocation Center on Sept. 4.

Standing on a podium between two giant video screens, Scott spoke to an audience that practically filled an entire side of the arena. He gave a harrowing firsthand account of the Columbine High School shootings that took the lives of 12 students, one teacher and both shooters on April 20, 1999.

The first person killed at Columbine was Scott's older sister, Rachel Joy Scott. Rachel was known as a girl filled with compassion, who went out of her way to make others feel better and who lived life to the fullest every day.

Scott struck a chord with the audience when he explained that Anne Frank was his sister's role model. He emphasized two impor-

tant connections between the girls: both wrote journals filled with hope, and both would be remembered through these journals.

A month before the shootings, Rachel wrote an essay in which she said, "I have this theory that if one person can go out of their way to show compassion, then it will start a chain reaction of the same."

In tribute to Rachel, her family created the nonprofit organization, "Rachel's Challenge," which reached over 1.5 million people per year. Through this organization, Scott and his family took turns speaking to audiences across the United States, challenging them to follow five life rules: Choose positive influences, keep a journal filled with life goals, show acts of kindness to others, eliminate prejudice and tell those you care about that you love them.

After each presentation, audience members were encouraged to sign their names on a banner hanging on the wall. The banner said, "I accept Rachel's Challenge."

During Scott's presentation, he took the audience on an emo-



tional rollercoaster ride as he retold his tale of what happened at Columbine, including seeing his two friends shot and killed in the school library. His story was accompanied by local TV news videos from a Channel 4 News report as well as a 911 call from a teacher also stuck in the library.

The Convocation Center took on an eerie atmosphere as Scott shared some of the events that transpired after his sister's death. He recalled how his sister always said she knew she was going to die young, but she knew would be famous and make an impact on the world.

Even stranger was the story Scott told about a man in Ohio who had a recurring dream of a girl's eyes crying, her tears falling upon a rose growing from the ground. He had this dream every night after he saw Rachel's picture on the television. When he contacted Rachel's father and asked him if it meant anything to him, he politely replied it did not.

The next day, her father picked up Rachel's bag from the police station where it had been kept as evidence. In the book bag was Rachel's journal and on the last entry there was a drawing of a girl's tears falling upon a rose that was growing out of the ground. This entry was made during the class period before the shooting; her teacher had seen her drawing it. There were 13 teardrops in the picture and 13 people were murdered by the shooters that day.

At that point, it seemed as if everyone in attendance was about

to drop his or her head in grief. Every time audience members got lumps in their throats and were holding back their tears, Scott softened the mood with some much-needed comic relief.

Junior Tiffany Feathers said Scott told a powerful story, but she most enjoyed how he showed his funny side by demonstrating some of his dance moves.

Others students, including senior Nichole Pulkowski, found a deeper meaning amid all the laughter and tears. "You're not always that nice person who helps everyone out," said Pulkowski. "I want to be that person that is nice to everyone."

Pulkowski also said she heard Rachel Scott's father speak when he visited the university the previous year, but this event provided a "different perspective because Scott was there at the shooting."

Junior Erin Plecker said that she heard how inspirational Rachel's father was at last year's presentation, which caused her to attend this year's event. In fact, her father was so motivating, the first university chapter of "Friends of Rachel" was started here at the university. At the beginning of the presentation, "Friends of Rachel" presented Scott with his own T-shirt and declared him an honorary Duke. Many audience members expressed a desire to become a part of the university's chapter.

After Scott completed his 90-minute presentation, hundreds of audience members stood in line waiting for their chance to tell him they accepted Rachel's Challenge.



**FRIENDS** of Rachel group members wear T-shirts with the university chapter's motto on the back. The mantra encompassed Rachel's message of compassion. Photo by Shaina Allen



# Burnt Bagels

Fire destroyed a popular breakfast destination

David Jerlinski, the owner of Mr. J's, was just about to leave for work when his brother called him and said the deli was burning on the news. "I just didn't know what to imagine, and when I pulled up there everything was in a blaze and I thought it was totally burnt down," said Jerlinski. "It wasn't, but it's almost as bad as being burnt down with all the smoke damage and water damage. It was just horrible, just a big mess."

Mr. J's had opened its doors to the Harrisonburg community 19 years prior, when owners David and Jo Jerlinski got the idea from their cousin. After they discussed the suggestion, the two made the move to Virginia to open Mr. J's.

"My first cousin moved down to Harrisonburg about a year and a half before we did," said David. "We came to visit and we just liked the area. When we decided to move down here, we needed a job, so my cousin suggested bagels. We looked into it in New Jersey and went to bagel places, and then moved down."

Since the opening of the first Mr. J's on East Market Street, the business expanded to two other locations, first to Rockingham Square in 1998 and then to Harmony Square in 2002. But on the morning of Sept. 11, the Rockingham Square location burned down after a fire was started in the Chinese restaurant next to it.

Students were devastated by the news of the fire. Senior Victoria Eberle and sophomore Tara Higgins remembered feeling shocked and saddened. Others guessed who had started the fire in the Chinese restaurant, New China, which fire officials determined was arson.

"I figured it's probably an employee," said junior Mallory Weingartner. "That's the first thing I thought of [when I heard about the fire], it's probably some angry person that worked there."

Luckily for students and other customers, the owners planned to fully rebuild the deli by the spring of 2009. During the rebuilding process, customers were still able to choose between the two other locations.

Since Mr. J's was built in 1990, it had become a popular off-campus spot for many students. Higgins considered Mr. J's to be a social arena on the weekends, while Weingartner liked it because it was the only place she could get a quick breakfast, unlike IHOP and similar places where there was a long line on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Eberle however, just enjoyed Mr. J's for its bagels, calling them "great hangover

**CONES** line the Rockingham Square parking lot after a fire burned down one of the three Mr. J's Bagels and Deli locations. The Rockingham Square location was the second Mr. J's location built, established in 1998. Photo by Angela Barbosa



**WITH** the line to the door, a mob crowds into Mr. J's at the Harmony Square location. "Mr. J's bagels are like heaven," said senior Katherine Norris. "I don't know how to describe it, they just are." Photo by Lucy Romeo







**THE** Rockingham Square deli remains closed to customers. The burned down Mr. J's forced regulars to frequent the other two locations in Harrisonburg. *Photo by Angela Barbosa*



**A CHAIN-LINK** fence, caution tape and barbed wire prevent pedestrians from entering the destroyed Mr. J's. Numerous precautions were taken to protect the pedestrians and prevent the burned location from sustaining further damage. *Photo by Angela Barbosa*

food."

David realized how important the university's community was to Mr. J's.

"I wonder how business would be if JMU wasn't here," said David. "We probably wouldn't have three stores because there probably wouldn't be a need for it... business would be a lot less."

But with the university's student body reaching upwards of 16,000 students, the success of Mr. J's was something David never had to worry about. With plenty of customers, he was able to enjoy his favorite part of the job: meeting the regulars. David enjoyed being able to interact with customers and meet new faces, especially the students. The people he had been able to meet over the years of being in business touched his life. He said he was happy that his store was a popular spot for many students, but knowing that sometimes gave him "a big head."

Many students hoped that Mr. J's would continue to be a part of the community. Of course, for some frequenters of the bagel shop, life was different without Mr. J's Rockingham Square location to go to every week for their daily breakfast needs.

But students continued to frequent the other locations. "This year we come every other week, and buy a bunch of bagels and bring them home," said Weingartner.

Whether it was the delicious bagels or the social atmosphere, David hoped that students continued to come and enjoy his bagels—even if it was to just nurse a hangover.





# The Boys Are Back In Town

By Ariel Spengler

The local band, The Friday Night Boys, gained a national fan base

Every Saturday morning, students piled into Gibbons Hall to fill their stomachs with a hot breakfast. Hair unwashed and adorned in sweatpants, the only other plans some of them had made for the rest of the morning was to get back into bed. Senior Andrew Goldstein, on the other hand, was headed down the highway with his bandmates to perform another show along the East Coast. This had become a regular occurrence for the founder of the power-pop band, The Friday Night Boys (FNB).

"I just wanted a less serious band that was based around having fun," said Goldstein, who formed the band in the winter of 2006 and was surprised by its rapid rise to fame.

Fun was an understatement for FNB, whose catchy songs reflected their upbeat and fun-loving personalities. Vocalist/guitarist Goldstein and his three other bandmates, vocalist/guitarist Mike Toohey, bassist Robby Reider and drummer/vocalist Chris Barrett, worked together to create a unique sound that their listeners could enjoy as much as the band did.

Their fan base in northern Virginia attracted the attention of the influential TV station, MTV. Since their appearance on Total Request Live (TRL) in the summer of 2008, life for the band had been nothing short of a whirlwind.

"The fan response, especially online, has grown tremendously," said Goldstein, talking about the band's popular Web sites on both MySpace and purevolume. Their MySpace page had reached over two million views since its founding almost two years ago, with an average of 12,000 visits to the site each day.

Following their TV appearance, FNB obtained a record label from Fueled By Ramen Records, an indie label that represented bands such as

**SINGING** the harmony to "Thursday Night Pregame," vocalist/guitarist Mike Toohey embraces the crowd's energy. The band's label, Fueled By Ramen Records, also sold FNB merchandise on its Web site. Photo by Natalie Wall





Panic At The Disco, Gym Class Heroes and Paramore.

After signing with Fueled By Ramen Records in the summer of 2007, FNB released three albums within a year and a half. "TRL was a huge help for iTunes sales as well," said Goldstein, referring to their most recent Extended Play (EP) album, "That's What She Said," which was released October of 2008. They planned on touring for the remainder of the year.

It was tough for the band to move around as much as it did. However, FNB was ready to make that commitment. Although band members usually resided in Fairfax, Va., the group relocated to Harrisonburg so Goldstein could finish his senior year at the university.

"It has been hectic," said Goldstein, a psychology major who juggled 18 credit hours along with touring. "I am almost never here on the weekends because we are playing shows."

FNB believed it was worthwhile, however. In the months that they were on tour, they visited cities such as Boston, Philadelphia and New York City.

"The major setbacks are not getting enough sleep and not being able to go to Highlawn [Rocktown Grille]," admitted Goldstein, with a laugh.

While most weekends the band had to live without the familiar sights of Harrisonburg and the university, there was one special occasion where they combined both the band and the university. In September 2008, FNB opened for Boys Like Girls in the university's Convocation Center.

"It was incredible," said Goldstein, thinking back to that night, which Goldstein

**WITH** drumstick in hand, drummer Chris Barrett points out to his fans. Band members kept their trailer full of equipment in the Hunter's Ridge Apartment Complex parking lot during the year. Photo by Natalie Wall



said had been one of the most memorable shows the band played. "It was awesome sharing the stage with a band that has been playing for such large crowds for quite some time."

Boys Like Girls had not been the only band to attract large crowds that night. FNB was approached by fans of their own.

"A lot of high school students came up to us after the show," said Goldstein, who confessed that the high school age range found their songs more appealing than the college students. "Our primary audience is more based around teenage girls."

It was no surprise that girls fell in love with FNB. Their good looks and addicting songs were an attractive combination. What continued to surprise most

people was the fact that Goldstein single-handedly wrote and recorded all of their songs.

As for inspiration, "I usually go out and party and something funny or random happens each time," said Goldstein. "I wake up the next morning and write something down."

The result was almost immediate success. With albums under their belts, FNB was prepared to take the music industry by storm. Goldstein had not yet decided upon whether he would pursue graduate school. "We will see what happens," said Goldstein. "I would be interested to play a show [in Harrisonburg] sometime." Perhaps the university had not seen the last of FNB.



**PLAYING** FNB's lead singer, Goldstein, is the only one who has written and recorded all of the band's songs. "I usually go out and party and something funny or random happens each time," said Goldstein. "I wake up the next morning and write something down."



**REPRESENTING** the university, senior and band frontman Andrew Goldstein rocks out with his fellow bandmate Mike Toohey. The band enjoyed being able to combine both aspects of their life into one show. *Photo by Natalie Wall*

== “ ==  
It has been hectic. I am almost never here on the weekends because we are playing shows.  
-senior Andrew Goldstein  
== ” ==



By Katie Thisdell

# Gearing Up

WITH the increase of students and lack of parking, bike racks were filled to capacity. It was not uncommon to see the overflow of bikes chained to trees, posts and benches. Photo by Megan Mori

Bicycles became a popular alternative mode of transportation for students

**WHIZZING** by Wilson Hall, a student makes her way to class. Biking was also a part of "No Drive Day" on Oct. 17, an effort to reduce the amount of drivers, that was put on by students and the Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation. Photo by Rebecca Schneider



Wheels spinning and feet pedaling, they rolled through campus, meandering around pedestrians. There were Schwinns, Treks, Raleighs, Gary Fishers and Spaldings. With baskets and bells, paint and rust, bikes were a part of the university life. Whether to hurry across campus, save money or enjoy the experience, biking created a community for riders.

"It's quick and it's fast," said senior Kevin Edwards. "It makes life easier."

Edwards, who had ridden his whole life, used his bike to get to campus from his home off Port Republic Road. Harrisonburg Department of Public Transit bus routes did not run near his house, so he rode up and down the infamous Port Republic Road hill every day. Even with the traffic, he never had any difficulties on the road.

Junior Sarah Layman, however, hoped that over time biking would get easier for her. Her sore and tight legs let her know how many hills she had ridden.

"I hate my bike," she said. "There are hills everywhere. Wherever you go to class there are hills." Even so, Layman considered the pain worth those 15 extra minutes of sleep she had every morning.

"Sleep is an awful reason to make that choice, I know," she acknowledged. "But biking is a lot quicker and I don't have to get up earlier."

The convenience of biking through campus inspired many to adopt this form of alternative transportation. Racks beside dorms and buildings overflowed with seats and wheels toppling over. Bikes lined the chairs, forming a line down the Grand Avenue stairs.

On a sunny fall day, a line of bicycles waited for their riders.







**RIDING** away from his class, sophomore Bryan Moen heads towards his dorm. "It gets me where I need to be faster. And it's easier," said Moen. Photo by Natalie Wall



beach cruiser along the top of the Quad.

"It's just kind of fun," she said. Parking on campus was inconvenient from her Main Street apartment, and most of her friends also rode to class. Staying fit was an added bonus for her.

When sidewalks were crowded, Albanese said she hopped off her bike to avoid hitting pedestrians. Having been on the pedestrian side of a bike accident, she wanted to prevent it from happening to others.

But sometimes problems did happen. Chains got caught, brakes failed and tires deflated.

Senior Jeff Joyce knew how to help. He organized a free bike repair day on the Commons on Oct. 15. After similar "Tube and Lube" repair days the previous year, Joyce hoped to continue bi-monthly ones for the spring.

"Let's try to get this bike going and get you out of here," Joyce said to a student whose bike had broken brakes.

Other students worked on tires and chains as riders lined up with their bikes. Within the first hour, Joyce said they had fixed 13 bikes and there was still a line.

Biking was not just an individual hobby. It brought the community together.

Senior Nicholas Melas helped freshman Michael Obeng repair his popped tire. Together, they removed the tube, found the hole and covered it with putty.

"You learn a lot by doing it yourself," said Melas while describing a bike repair program he worked with while studying in Australia.

Obeng was impressed with the Environmental Awareness and Restoration Through Our Help (EARTH) Club event since he had not been able to use his bike since the semester began.

Barefoot men and skirt-wearing women waited on the unusually warm October afternoon. The university's second annual No Drive Day coincided with the event. Urging the community to use alternative transportation, EARTH Club gave popular "RIDE ME" public transportation T-shirts to anyone riding buses, walking to campus.

According to the small crowd of people who gathered for the event, the EARTH Club's "RIDE ME" T-shirts were a hit.

the city had a support system for bikers. For instance, all buses were equipped with front-loading racks for bikes. He said many students who lived off Port Republic Road rode their bikes down in the morning and took the bus back up the hill in the afternoon, bikes in tow.

"It's actually amazing," said Smith-Walter. "The traffic is backed all the way up the hill, but there's a bicycle lane that's basically empty. People can jump on their bikes at Ashby and sail through traffic that would take them 15 minutes in their car. They just shoot right down the hill, so they're saving a lot of time."

As the university expanded over the years, classrooms grew further apart. Some schedules required students to go from East Campus to Memorial Hall in 15 minutes.

"You know you're going to have to pick it up if you want to do that in 15 minutes on foot," said Smith-Walter. "But if you have a bike, you can do that really easily."

Some students rode just for fun. Joyce and the EARTH Club also sponsored community bike rides. Groups of students with varied experience rode through campus and downtown, enjoying each other's company and the journey.

As senior Mark Hitchko waited for Joyce's help at the bike repair, he described nearby trails. Unfortunately, his classes got in the way of riding for fun.

"I love just going fast, jumping around and even feeling the wind in your hair," he said. "I wish I was down here more in the summer to take advantage of this area."

As freshman Sachiko Hanamura waited for Joyce to work on her bikes tires, she was surprised to see the popularity of biking. Coming from Northern Virginia, she never had a need to ride. Once she arrived at the university, it became an everyday activity.

It took Hanamura seven minutes to get to her classes when she's riding "really, really fast" every morning.

"I can't wait to get out," she said, laughing while holding her melon. "I love it. It's a great way to get out."

Biking is a popular activity—for transportation, for health and for fun. It's a great way to get out.



# A Fresh Find

By Katie Thisdell

The local farmers' market made a stop on campus

As the popping sounds of kettle corn filled Warren Patio, customers lined up for a sweet and salty afternoon snack. Bags full of apples and cucumbers hung on the arms of students, faculty and staff who walked past vendors at the first on-campus farmers' market.

Hosted by Dining Services and the Harrisonburg Downtown Farmers' Market, the Oct. 2 event lasted from 8 a.m. to about 3 p.m. Several vendors from the downtown market sold their produce to the university community.

"If more people buy locally, it will help everyone in the long run," said Marlan Showalter, president of the downtown market.

Pints of sweet raspberries disappeared first as customers lingered over the tastes of summer. Sophomore Amanda Coale purchased the last container from vendor Dorothy Miller, along with a bag of beans. She planned to use the beans with potatoes to cook a meal for her parents over family weekend.

"I'll probably eat all the raspberries on the way back to my dorm," said Coale.

The other tables at the market showcased fall produce, including pumpkins and sweet potatoes. Summer's last tomatoes, peppers and squash also lay on the tables.

"I love fresh produce, and especially with this economy you have to support locals as much as you can," said Coale. "And why not? It's so easy to do. And fresh, natural foods are great for your mind and body."

Junior Emily Shrader noticed the market as she walked through campus. Being able to use her meal plan encouraged her to look at what was available. Students could make purchases with Dining Dollars, FLEX or cash.

"I haven't decided what I want to buy yet," she said as she walked past the bountiful tables. "I like this fresh food that you don't really get on campus."

Dining Services worked towards buying more local produce through its Green Thread Initiative. According to Director of Operations Marco Levesque, buying locally was beneficial towards minimizing the university's carbon footprint.

"We want to create an awareness of local farmers and products that are available in the area," said Levesque. "Hopefully, students will want to be a part of this sustainability initiative and will enjoy the local produce that farmers brought to campus."

Dining Services also set up a table at the market with produce they bought from the Shenandoah Valley Produce Auction. Dolly



**PERUSING** the colorful options, a customer admires the selection of fresh produce. Downtown Harrisonburg Farmers' Market was open twice a week from March to December. Photo by Shaina Allen

**FRESH** apple cider and vegetables are sold at the university's farmers' market. Students were able to use dining dollars to buy locally grown produce. Photo by Shaina Allen





A STAND sells fall vegetables that are grown without pesticides. Dining Services hosted the event on the patio of Warren Hall. Photo by Shaina Allen

Lawson from Vending Services said they wanted to make sure there were enough choices for customers. After seeing the other vendors, Lawson said that she was impressed with the displays.

"They have some very nice produce, a nice variety and nice prices," said Lawson. "Everyone seems to be enjoying the experience and interested in what we have to offer."

As Lawson arranged pots of purple and white mums on the patio and refilled containers of potatoes and squash, she said the customers had a varied appreciation for the produce.

"Those people that know the difference between fresh local products and are experienced are enjoying this," she said, while fixing the display of yellow heirloom tomatoes. "Some people are learning. We're hoping to help educate them on this difference."

Eric Bendfeldt, extension specialist for the Virginia Cooperative Extension, explained that the market was a learning experience for the university.

"We just want to create a general awareness of the farming community that surrounds JMU and how important it is," said Bendfeldt. "An effort like this is to educate students through a combination of building public awareness and community service."

As Miller stood behind her table with watermelons, mint leaves and plump blackberries, she explained that her Circle M Farm was only 15 miles away from the university. One student questioned the price of the watermelons, but although they might have been priced slightly higher, Miller said she had picked them the night before. Miller had sold her produce at the downtown market for two years, but enjoyed spending the day at the university.

"I had my doubts when I came here, because you never know," she said. "But I do think it's worth it now."

As she sold her produce, Miller realized it was her last market day of the season.

Sophomore Wes McGrew volunteered at the nearby Dining Services table. As a member of EARTH Club, he understood the environmental impact of local farmers' markets.

"I jumped at this opportunity," he said. "I knew I had to sell vegetables again because I had such a good time working on a

farm all summer."

McGrew described a disconnect between Harrisonburg and the university community.

"This is an easy way to bridge that gap," he said. "We can support another side of the economy that doesn't always get support from JMU, not like Wal-Mart or anything."

Showalter said the time of the year was the biggest challenge with planning. A spring market fell too early in the growing season, while fruits and vegetables were almost finished producing in the fall.

"Somebody's got to be willing to step up there the first time though," said Showalter. "Otherwise, we'll never know if this will work."

Groups of students walked away from the market holding pumpkins to decorate their rooms for the fall. More customers came during lunchtime and between classes. At one point, Showalter couldn't keep up with the line for his kettle corn. Though it had been slow in the morning, the market quickly became a popular spot.

Sophomore Natalie Stickel strolled between the tables after noticing everyone in the area.

"This is the first time I've heard about this," she said. "It's something they should do more often." A native of Lancaster, Pa., Stickel said she was used to going to farmers' markets. She bought apple cider before continuing on to her class.

"If you want good food, we're here in the Shenandoah Valley," said McGrew. "It's all around us."

== “ ” ==  
This is an easy way to bridge that gap.  
We can support another side of the  
economy that doesn't always get support  
from JMU.

-sophomore Wes McGrew

== ” ” ==







**A STUDENT'S** mother oversees her son's grilling skills before the football game against Hofstra University. Many families went all out, showing their Duke spirit with purple and gold plasticware. Photo by Julia Simcox



**DONNED** in purple apparel, senior John Goodman and a family friend enjoy the sunny afternoon. The weather was unusually warm for family weekend. Photo by Julia Simcox

# Family

# Matters

Parents and siblings came together with students to enjoy an event-packed weekend

By Nicole Brigagliano

**i**t was not uncommon to walk onto a campus of purple and gold on Saturday afternoons in the fall. But for the first weekend in October, the crowd was filled with people of all ages from all different states. Family weekend was in full effect.

Since the university set the date in November 2007, the family weekend committee had been hard at work to prepare for what it hoped would be a successful weekend.

The committee, consisting of representatives from Parent Relations, Parking Services, Dining Services and the University Recreation Center (UREC), organized 14 new events according to Sherry King, director of Parent Relations and Tracey Kite, assistant director.

"We just keep adding to it, not taking away," said Kite. "The activities we offer go above and beyond."

With over 30 different events packed in from Friday to Sunday, parents and family members were seen all over campus.

"There is something for everybody," said King. "You're going to see a lot of people this weekend doing a lot of things."

One of the new events was "Back to School" for parents. During the event, organized by Kite, parents could attend more than 130 classes on Friday.

"I was surprised to see the feedback that we did," said Kite.

Of the 130 options, classes ranged from marching band to Web development to victimology. It was a chance for parents to live vicariously through their children.

Friday also offered families the opportunity to attend campus tours and sporting events, including

field hockey and volleyball games.

Friday night wrapped up with comedian Vicki Lawrence taking Wilson Hall's stage in her show, "Vicki Lawrence and Mama: A Two-Woman Show."

The biggest event of all was the football game against Hofstra University on Saturday afternoon.

With 16,109 people in attendance, according to ESPN.com, the game was sold out by the first weekend in July. Attendance at the football game made it the largest event of the weekend, according to Parent Relations.

Students and parents alike waited around Bridgeforth Stadium in the hours prior to kickoff to get to their seats. Luckily, the university had events planned for them as they waited.

Godwin Field was transformed into a mini market with more than 20 participating vendors. Families listened to the sounds of swing band Blue Suede as they shopped around for university apparel and learned about different student groups on campus. The University Outpost "FanZone" even allowed families to enjoy an inflatable moon bounce and giveaways.

Chad Phillips, a freshman from Chesapeake, Va., hung out with his parents, Sherry and Rick Phillips, at the Godwin Field Festival waiting to head into the game.

"To see [Chad] of course and to meet his friends and see campus was the best part of the weekend," said Sherry. They loved seeing what he had accomplished.

The Phillips family was excited about the football game, but Chad was also excited about an event he had helped plan for his dorm.

Chad was the recreational representative for the Frederickson Hall Community Council. The hall had planned a parents' social where the parents of the students living in that dorm could "meet and greet."





"It's just so parents get to know and meet the new people you hang out with," said Chad.

It was the first year the dorm was putting on the event, and Chad hoped it would be a success.

Freshman Meghan Ward's parents drove down from Bristol, Conn., for the weekend.

"It's nice seeing everyone's families and the hospitality of the university for the parents," said Ward.

Ward's brother, Steve, a graduate from the University of Delaware, said, "They always put on a good show when the parents come out."

But the Phillips and Ward families were not the only ones enjoying what the university had planned for them.

Freshman Kyle Rogers and his parents, Michael and Susan Rogers, from Rockville Centre, N.Y., enjoyed their Saturday at the Picnic on the Commons and the football game.

"It's outstanding how everyone chips in and gets the place prepared for the events," said Michael, as he finished his hamburger.

"Even the hotels are decorated in purple and gold!" added Susan.

Families could eat the "fantastic feast" at Gibbons Hall, followed by the Pops concert featuring the university's chorus, brass band, wind symphony and Marching Royal Dukes.

With so many events planned and so many families, it was no surprise that multiple events were sold out. But that was not the only problem. Hotels were booked as far as an hour south and an hour north, according to King.

In particular, lodging for parents had always been a problem on family weekends. According to King and Kite, freshman parents were at a disadvantage, as students did not know if they were accepted into the university until much after the announcement of the date of family weekend, when hotels were mostly already booked.

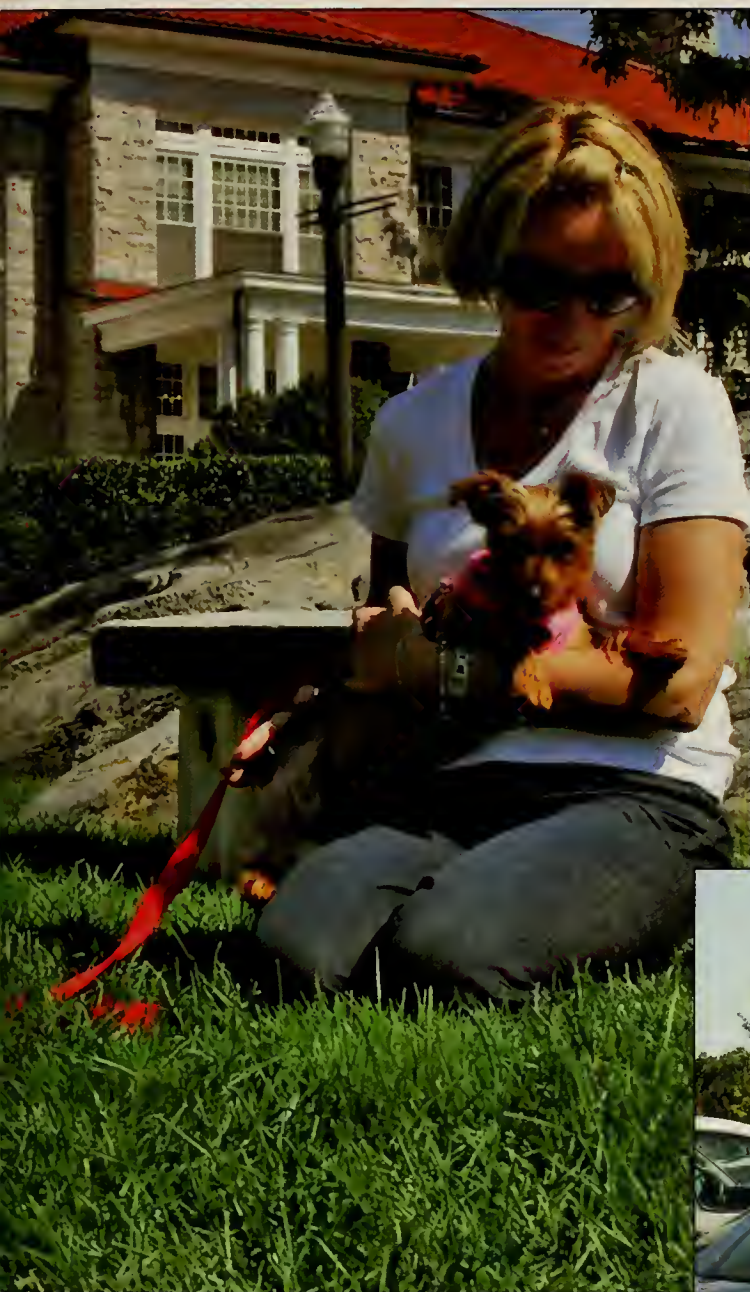
"We try to get the word out as quickly as possible," said King.

Parent Relations and the Parents Council sent letters and cards home to families informing them of the dates as well as order forms for football tickets and reservation forms.

By doing so, they hoped to lessen the problem, especially when parents of upperclassmen booked hotels up to a year in advance. With the large number of events offered to families and the limited space available for lodging, family weekend proved to have everything; university spirit, fun, families and of course, purple and gold.







**JUNIOR** Kaitlyn Haynal and her mother Mona take a break from planned activities to relax with their dogs, Zoey and Miley, on the Quad. Students took advantage of family weekend to show their parents popular spots on campus. *Photo by Rebecca Schneider*

**PLAYING** a game of corn hole, a student tailgates with her family before the game against Hofstra University. The Dukes won 56-0, the record largest conference margin of victory, according to JMU Sports.com. *Photo by Julia Simcox*

“  
It's nice seeing everyone's families and  
the hospitality of the university for the  
parents.  
-freshman Meghan Ward  
”





# Game Plan

By Sarah Chain

Students found fun and competition through intramurals

**W**ith names like Skillz That Killz, Joose R Us, and Kicking Koalas, it was easy to see at first glance that each intramural sport at the university was what the gateman in the Wizard of Oz might have called "a horse of a different color." While the university offered a wide variety of sports at the varsity and club levels, some students were looking for a more laid-back league to play in.

"It's more of a fun thing to do," said graduate student Craig Whitcher, secretary for the Sports Club Council. "You can put a team together with whoever wants to play."

Junior Lauren Patrick said, "I did try out for the Club volleyball team freshman year. I didn't make it, but I still wanted a way to play competitively."

Unlike varsity or club sports, intramurals also offered faculty, staff and their spouses an opportunity for some competition, provided they possessed a JMU Access Card or a University Recreation Activity Card. Undergraduate and graduate students were required to be enrolled in a minimum of seven credit hours.

Mathematics professor Anthony Tongen jumped on the chance to be part of intramurals when he arrived at the university. Having participated in intramural flag football as an undergraduate student at the University of Pittsburgh, Tongen continued to play during his time as a graduate student and a postdoctoral researcher. Being involved with student organizations like InterVarsity and Campus Crusade for Christ provided him with an opportunity to play not only with fellow faculty members, but also with students.

"Intramural sports are a great way to interact with students outside of the classroom," said Tongen. "I also think it is good for students to see that a great way of staying in shape as you get older is joining leagues."

To keep the playful atmosphere intact, professional athletes were ineligible to play and all varsity and junior varsity athletes were barred from their given sport. Teams assigned themselves a level (one, two or three), depending on the participants' or team's experience with the sport and knowledge of the rules or strategies involved. Students in club sports were limited to the upper two levels of play, and only two club athletes were permitted per team. The rules were all created to keep the teams fair, according to Drew Savalador, graduate assistant for intramurals and special events.

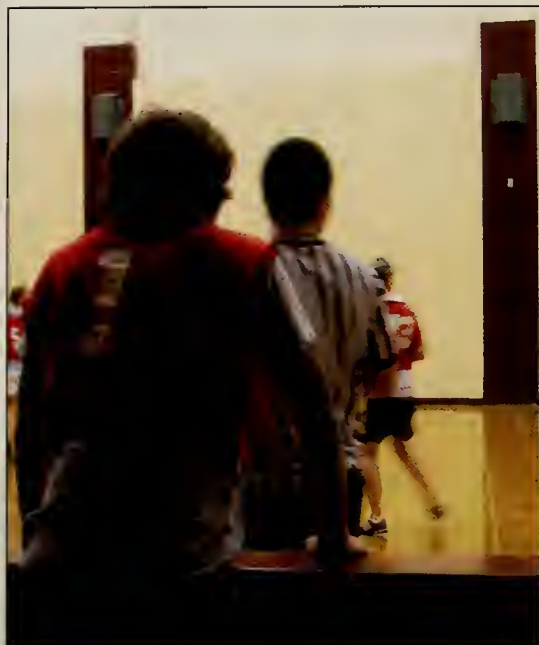


**ATTEMPTING** to pull off an opponent's flags, junior Ethan Sherman and sophomore Andrew Robertson compete in a rousing game of flag football. Intramural flag football was a great way for students to de-stress from their hectic schedules. Photo by Shaina Allen

**PREPARED** to take the ball down the court, a student shows off his skills during an intramural indoor soccer game in the Multi-purpose Activity Center in UREC. The World FC team won the indoor soccer intramural championship for the Mens division 3. Photo by Tiffany Brown







**EYES** on his team, junior Josh Althouse, waits for his turn on the court. To promote sportsmanship and teamwork, UREC gave points to teams based on the players' conduct, and only those with an average of 3.0 points were eligible for playoffs. *Photo by Tiffany Brown*



**FLAGS** fly as a group of students compete in an intramural flag football faceoff. Students could form their own teams or join one already in existence. *Photo by Shaina Allen*

Intramural sports fell into three seasons: fall, spring, and summer, with options ranging from indoor soccer to racquetball doubles to inner tube water polo. Most sports offered both men's and women's teams, while some also offered coed team options. Coed teams had special rules, according to Whitcher, to ensure that there was a certain number of women on each team, and that they received the ball a certain number of times.

Officials were usually students who had participated in a two-day clinic. The first day consisted of an information session where potential officials learned the rules of the game, and the second day provided a hands-on opportunity to officiate.

Players chose between forming their own team and allowing the Intramural Office to assign them to one. Organizations such as the Student Government Association (SGA) and many sororities and fraternities took advantage of intramural sports as a way to get together outside of regular meetings.

"I think members enjoy the fact that they see people in different settings by playing sports," said senior Tommy Bluestein, captain of SGA's floor hockey team. "I think this is integral for groups that do a lot of business in a meeting room ... it can help to relieve some stress."

Senior Dan Stana organized an SGA flag football team for similar reasons.

"I wanted to try and get people to get to know one another better outside the realm of just SGA," said Stana. "It was great to know new members, what they are into, and have fun in the process."

Aside from bonding with members of an organization, players enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere of intramural sports.

"It's not as competitive or serious," said junior Teri Swinson. "It is a great thing to do for a break from studying ... get some exercise, blow off some steam, and escape from homework for an hour."

Swinson first heard about intramurals during her freshman year, when someone in her math class asked her to play on a flag football team. As a member of Pi Sigma Epsilon, she also often played on her fraternity's teams.

For every sport, the University Recreation Center (UREC) worked hard to emphasize good sportsmanship in the intramural league.

"Each team gets a sportsmanship rating after every game," said Swinson. The officials assigned each team a number on a scale from zero to four.

"Zero is like a fight," said Salvador. "Four would be perfect."

Each team needed an average score of 3.0 over four games to be eligible for playoffs. Sportsmanship points were also docked for not showing up to a scheduled game, according to Salvador. Teams reserved a playing space with a \$20 forfeit bond, which paid the referee and site costs in the event of a no-show. The second time a team failed to show up for a game, they were ejected from the league.

"We all hold each other accountable not to take advantage of the system," said Swinson.

The members of the winning team of playoffs in each level received a T-shirt, along with bragging rights until the next season.

"Everyone wants to win obviously, because the champions get a T-shirt," said Swinson.

"Yeah, I hear they're pretty coveted," acknowledged Salvador.

T-shirt or not, intramurals were a popular choice for their social aspect.

"Joining intramurals was one of the best things I could have done. I absolutely love it," said Swinson. "People on my teams have become some of my best friends."

Salvador added, "It's especially great if you're a freshman. It's a great way to meet people. It's also great for players who are good, but can't quite make a club team. Or for people who are scared of the weight rooms."

Salvador had high hopes for the program in the future. Having played intramural water polo as an undergraduate student before he arrived at the university as a graduate assistant, he planned to reorganize inner tube water polo and advertise to encourage more teams to apply. He also spoke of beginning a four-on-four flag football team or a kickball team.

"It's all tentative," said Salvador, but if student reaction was any indicator, intramural sports were sure to stay popular regardless of changes.



# Around The

By Karlyn Williams

TV star Doug Lansky shared the tricks and trades of travel

# World...

**b**efore his show, Doug Lansky sat quietly on the steps by Memorial Hall Auditorium, prepared to take the stage. The lobby bustled with students and University Program Board (UPB) members. Some students came to find out more about traveling, while others came to win the Eurail pass worth \$1,200. Three friends, seniors Jason Vitale and Nathaniel Elliston and sophomore Marisa Shapiro, all hoped that one of them would win the pass.

"We made a deal that if any of us won, we would all go together," said Elliston.

As the 130 people in attendance took their seats in Memorial Hall, the screen on the stage went black. Text appeared with various quotes about traveling.

Then the show morphed into a comedy act. Lansky revealed his humor as he took control of his audience by typing comments on the screen. He made the audience members introduce themselves to the person next to them, called out UPB members' embarrassing moments, and commanded the audience to stand up randomly while UPB's arts and culture coordinator, junior Rachelle McCracken, read Lansky's biography, sending laughter throughout the auditorium.

Lansky was a world traveler who was hired from a pool of 6,000 applicants to write a travel column, "Vagabond," that reached 10 million readers in 40 major newspapers. He also worked for National Geographic and the Travel Channel.

At the start of his "Get Lost" presentation, he focused on how this was the time in life, as young adults, to travel.

"I hope you'll do it, before you get the house, the extra fancy car, the kids, the cats, the dogs; all that stuff. Once you have all that stuff it's not a journey, it's a vacation," said Lansky.

He covered all the basic questions in an uncensored manner. What to do? How to get around? Where to stay? What to bring? What to eat? And the popular topic, "How do you doo?"

Lansky didn't hide the truth; he put pictures up on the screen to show the realities of traveling. He spent about 10 minutes talking about the varieties of toilets he had come across in his travels in over 100 countries in the past 10 years. He demonstrated how sickening some of the toilets were with images. The "dreaded squatter" was a hole in the ground with foot pedals to provide stability since there was nothing to hold on to and toilet paper was out of the question. He also showed an image of a high-tech toilet in Japan that had a remote control and various settings.

He briefed the audience on the common misconceptions of traveling, such as the myth that it is too dangerous to travel. He described different ways to keep safe while traveling. One tip was to have a fake wallet that had about \$10 dollars in it, so if you got pick pocketed, the thieves only got away with some cash and a new wallet. He recommended if everything was stolen not to freak out, and to call the travel insurance agency. They could get everything needed to carry on the trip in a few days, depending on the agency.

**ON** one of his journeys, Doug Lansky gets wax removed from his ears, as shown in his slideshow. The cost of the procedure depended on how much wax was extracted. Photo by Danielle Ward







**TEMPORARILY** sidetracked by trying to fix a microphone, Doug Lansky continues to entertain the audience. During his presentation, Lansky gave students advice on how to travel on a small budget. *Photo by Natalie Wall*

**UNIVERSITY** students and faculty arts and culture coordinator, junior **Rachelle McCracken**, reads Lansky's biography. *Photo by Rachelle McCracken*  
by reading from his biography, stand up comedian Doug Lansky gave the signal. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



Another myth was the more passport stamps acquired, the better the experience. Lansky spoke of the merits of travel without pausing for a picture in front of every postcard-worthy place. He also said a thick wallet could often isolate the tourist from the real experiences as a traveler.

"At the end of a trip you're going to remember the four or five days you spent crossing a desert on camel a lot more than spending 15 minutes you spent getting your picture taken in front of a famous building," said Lansky.

He recommended finding things of interest on the trip or finding a job to earn extra cash. Something most students did not think about was a possible way to earn cash while traveling.

"There are so many opportunities to expose yourself in a diverse atmosphere, especially through working abroad," said junior Jill Johnston. "Hearing about ice bartending and underwater hotel services really struck my attention"

Lansky took several jobs while traveling. He was a bartender at an ice hotel in Sweden, where many guests would ask for scotch on the rocks and Lansky would have to say that he didn't serve scotch "on the rocks" but "in the rocks"—the glasses were made out of ice.

In Florida, he worked for an underwater hotel as a bellboy. Instead of the traditional bellboy uniform, Lansky was equipped with full scuba gear because he had to swim with the bags to the rooms.

"The coolest part of this was actually when you leave. It was sort of fun, I thought, to exit through that hole; it felt like you were leaving through the bathtub," said Lansky.

At the end of the presentation, it was time to award the Eurail pass. To make things interesting, Lansky and McCracken took turns drawing tickets from the clear container to name the five finalists in the running for the pass. Then the competition start-

ed. Each finalist had to sing two to four seconds of a song with no repeats among finalists. If there was a song repeated, that finalist was out. Shapiro was in the final two with graduate student Molly Mercer.

Mercer won with the classic Christmas tune, "Jingle Bells" and began jumping up and down on the stage and shrieking with joy. Her friends, who were sitting in the second row, joined Mercer for a "group hug."

"Oh my goodness I'm going to Europe!" thought Mercer, after she realized she won the pass.

Mercer was nervous because she did not like to sing in public. But she and her friends hoped to visit Europe in the summer before they all began teaching in the fall, so she tried her best.

"We had tossed the idea around and the trip was in preliminary planning stages, but winning the pass solidified that we are actually going to do it. I was shaking, I was too excited to know what to think!" said Mercer.

Mercer planned to use her pass herself, since she could not physically split the pass she won. But the other three girls planned to book their passes and divide the total of the three between the four, so everyone got a little bit of savings. They were still in the planning process of the trip but did plan on taking Lansky's advice.

Mercer was interested in Lansky's advice to pay the extra money to get a sleeper car on the Eurail train if traveling overnight, to avoid wasting the next day making up for the sleep.

Students that went to the presentation gained knowledge and skills, and even students who went for pure entertainment left with a positive attitude toward traveling.

"The presentation was hilarious and inspired me to make more of an effort to see the world," said junior Matt Rollings.



# Making Noise

By Jen Beers

Local music scenes thrived throughout Harrisonburg



**NERVOUS** Habits lead vocalist senior [Name] closes his eyes and sings into the mic. The band performed a [Name] at Harrisonburg's VFW [Name] and [Name] Atlantic College Radio [Name] Timothy [Name]



**GETTING** into the music, The Chuck Shaffer Picture Show band members David Stiefel, Patrick Kenny, Ryan Johnson and Kenny Kominic perform at Rocktown Grille. Bars in Harrisonburg were popular places for up-and-coming bands. Photo courtesy of Ryan Johnson

The university offered an incredible range of music. For students whose interests varied from Bach to The Beatles, the university had plenty of music organizations to audition for or join. As for those who took pride in their listening skills rather than their singing or playing skills, they also benefited from organizations who entertained students at Taylor Down Under (TDU), Wilson Hall, the Convocation Center and local bars in Harrisonburg.

There were five total choral opportunities on campus. The auditioned choirs were The Madison Singers (24 voices), JMU Chorale (65 voices) and Treble Chamber Choir (16 voices). The non-audition choirs were the men's chorus (40 voices) and the women's chorus (40 voices).

"I'm excited about every genre, and I'm especially passionate about conducting," said Dr. Patrick Walders, director of choral activities.

Madison Singers was composed of both men and women. The group performed in the Shenandoah Valley, on the East Coast and in Virginia. They even traveled to Prague, Germany and the Czech Republic in 2006. Overseas, they joined together with the Czech's National Orchestra in Smetana Hall to perform Orff's *Carmina Burana*.

With an extensive mix of sopranos, altos, tenors and basses, the singers came together with beautiful music for the community to hear. Their distinctive sound was heard on campus at Wilson Hall, and off campus at local churches where choirs regularly performed. The churches were better suited for the singers' beautiful acoustics, where organs often accompanied them.

The university also provided students with a great





ensemble of a cappella groups. With a total of eight groups started, funded and run by students, the groups provided listeners with a unique and fun style. These groups included BluesTones, Into Hymn and Notoriety, all female groups; Exit 245, Clear Cadence and The Madison Project, all male groups; and OverTones and LowKey, both coed groups.

"To be a part of these groups is, in one word, a blessing," said Rachel Tombes, a former member and president of the BluesTones. "All eight groups together truly are a community and are all extremely supportive of one another as well as very close friends."

Groups performed at various events, including on-campus fundraisers like Operation Santa Claus, Up 'Til Dawn, SafeRides, Take Back The Night and Greek community philanthropy events. The groups could also be heard at local Harrisonburg events and other colleges and universities along the coast.

Sophomore Thomas Tombes decided to join the a cappella group Exit 245 because of the rising success of the group. Exit 245 developed great performing skills with hard work and dedication that the group members put into every rehearsal.

"Exit 245 is a lifestyle that takes extreme commitment, patience and dedication," said Tombes. "I love being in the group more than anything else I do here at JMU." It was obvious when they performed that the men of Exit 245 had as much fun singing as the audience had listening.

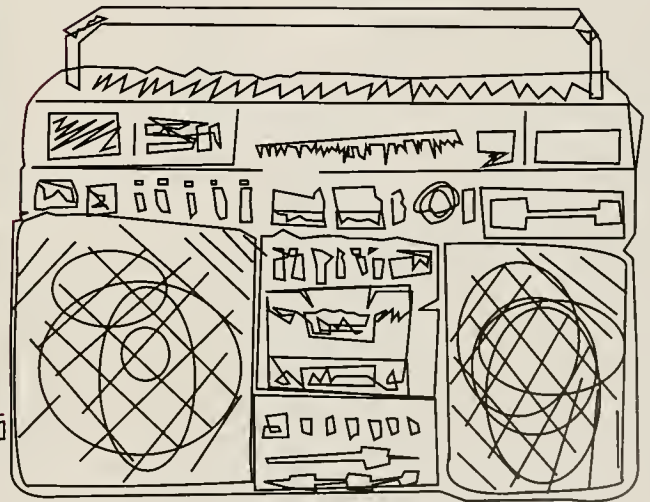
The wide variety of music styles left students with no excuse to avoid involvement. With places like The Pub, TDU, The Artful Dodger, Wilson Hall, Memorial Auditorium, the Convocation Center and Rocktown Grille, student musicians and local artists were able to expand their fan bases and play their music for other students.

Junior Thomas Leahy played locally and on campus as a solo artist, and recorded other students at the university.

"I bought recording equipment for [high school] graduation and started to teach myself," said Leahy. "I ran into a pretty big producer by chance, and he started teaching me a lot of tricks that helped me get a jump start on learning the ropes of digital recording." Relying on help from others and a natural talent for performing and recording music, Leahy recorded student groups such as The Chuck Shaffer Picture Show, The Super Octavius, The Avenue and Exit 245.



**DRESSED** in '80s flair, senior Robert Plono plays alongside fellow Ocean Spilling Over bandmate Geoff Snow. The band's MySpace page listed its music under the genres of metal, hardcore and crunk.  
Photo by Leslie Cavin







**FOCUSED** on his fingers, senior Zach Wall of Nervous Habits rocks out for the crowd. Nervous Habits played shows around Harrisonburg and as far away as Washington, D.C. Photo courtesy of Timothy Skirven

“  
People have traveled from Staunton and NOVA to come see us. But here in Harrisonburg and in many other areas, we always have somebody bleeding purple in the crowd.

-senior Ryan Johnson

”



**SOLDIERS** of Jah Army's lead vocalist and guitarist Jacob Hemphill looks out into the audience. SOJA's most recent album, "Get Wiser," was based on breaking down society's "blinders" to find truth. Photo courtesy of Soro Midkiff

For anybody interested in a mix between Incubus, Finch and Chris Daughtry, The Chuck Shaffer Picture Show (CSPS) was a band to notice. Two of the four members of the band were alumni of the university, one an undergraduate, and one a graduate of the University of South Carolina. The group consisted of lead vocalist/guitarist Ryan Johnson, vocalist/guitarist Kenny Kaminic, drummer Patrick Kenny, and bassist David Stiefel. Together for a year, the band members already had gathered a big student-fan base. They spread the word throughout campus by passing out free CDs on the Quad and the Commons. They held shows on and off campus, and could be heard on Harrisonburg's radio stations 98.5 Rock and DC101.

Their fan base, however, was not just limited to the university. "People have traveled from Staunton and NOVA to come see us," said Ryan Johnson. "Out here in Harrisonburg and in many other areas, we always have somebody bleeding purple in the crowd."

For local bands such as CSPS 80 One Records was a great way for students to have their sound to be heard. The label gave bands like Ryan Johnson & Rousseau a head start on their futures.

With the annual Record Deal Rumble, 80 One Records gave opportunities for bands and artists to be put on the label. Marketability, willingness to work with the record label and other Harrisonburg connections were all taken into account when deciding which bands would be on the label. 80 One Records was the perfect

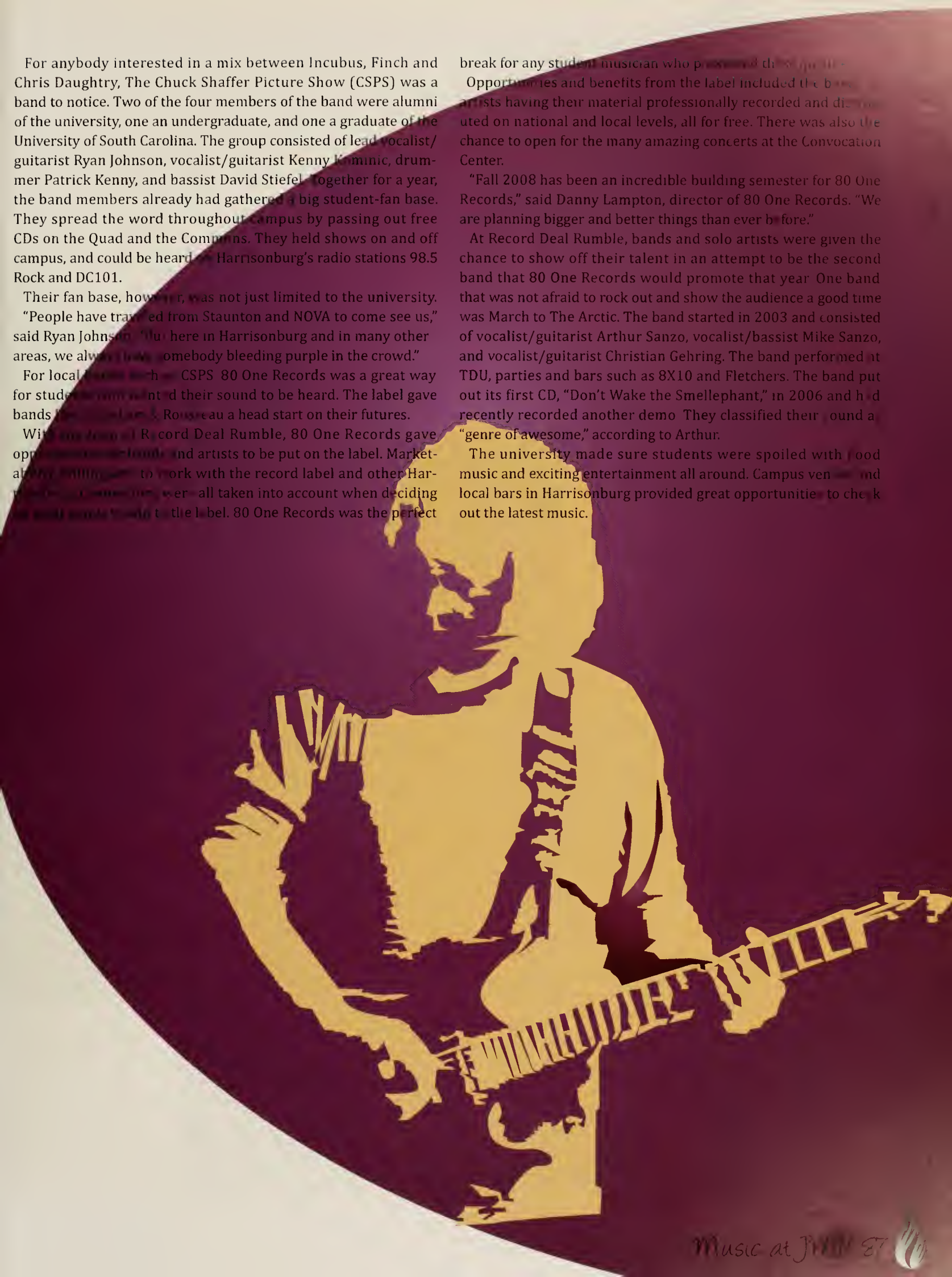
break for any student musician who possessed these qualities.

Opportunities and benefits from the label included the bands' artists having their material professionally recorded and distributed on national and local levels, all for free. There was also the chance to open for the many amazing concerts at the Convocation Center.

"Fall 2008 has been an incredible building semester for 80 One Records," said Danny Lampton, director of 80 One Records. "We are planning bigger and better things than ever before."

At Record Deal Rumble, bands and solo artists were given the chance to show off their talent in an attempt to be the second band that 80 One Records would promote that year. One band that was not afraid to rock out and show the audience a good time was March to The Arctic. The band started in 2003 and consisted of vocalist/guitarist Arthur Sanzo, vocalist/bassist Mike Sanzo, and vocalist/guitarist Christian Gehring. The band performed at TDU, parties and bars such as 8X10 and Fletchers. The band put out its first CD, "Don't Wake the Smellephant," in 2006 and had recently recorded another demo. They classified their sound as a "genre of awesome," according to Arthur.

The university made sure students were spoiled with good music and exciting entertainment all around. Campus venues and local bars in Harrisonburg provided great opportunities to check out the latest music.







By John Fitzgerald

# Advocating Awareness

Alpha Kappa Delta Phi organized a week in support of women

**I**t began as a tiny flame ignited in the cool October air. As it grew in size and strength, the flame leapt up to the bed sheets, flung itself upon the drapes and within 30 seconds had consumed the entire room in a blaze. Hundreds of students looked on as the two dorm rooms, one a male's and the other a female's, burned to the ground in the middle of Hunter's Ridge Apartment Complex. Harrisonburg Fire Station workers had constructed the rooms and oversaw the entire event, lighting the fires to demonstrate how swiftly a small flame inside a dorm room could spread to an inferno.

The dorm fire demonstration, which occurred on Friday, Oct. 3, was the grand finale of events in the third annual "Combat Women's Violence Week," hosted by alpha Kappa Delta Phi. What do dorm fires have to do with women's violence?

"We wanted to put together an event that would not only benefit female students," said sophomore Jay Ahn, president of alpha Kappa Delta Phi. "Fire is a very serious issue that's relevant to everyone, whether you live in a dorm or off-campus housing. Fire safety isn't always our top priority, and by watching how fast the dorm room catches on fire, one should realize the importance of keeping his or her room fire-proof and understand the gravity of fire-related incidents."

Though the other events were more concerned with the issue of women's violence and how to fight it, the goal of raising awareness was certainly a motif that strung them all together.

"Nuts About My Body" was held in Taylor Hall and over a hundred students attended, where many of them were forced to find seats



**DEMONSTRATING** how to break a chokehold, Officer E.L. Rader, Jr., and freshman Michel-June Rodríguez Pateña take a hands-on approach to the workshop. Knowledge of practical self-defense methods was important even in the small city of Harrisonburg. Photo by Angela Barbosa

on the floor since all the chairs had been filled. A peer advising group from the Student Outreach and Wellness Center used magazine advertisements as examples of the high physical standards created by society for men and women alike.

"Eating disorders are a product of society's unhealthy definition of women's beauty," said Ahn. "It may not be someone physically attacking women, but such obsession with being thin has put many women through the mental and physical illness that is an eating disorder. So eating disorders are indeed a form of violence against women that we need to keep on fighting against."

To combat our society's harsh superficiality, the peer group used a peanut to symbolize a person, in that the shape of a peanut's shell does not determine what was inside. They explained how the perception of beauty is relative, and that self-confidence is the key to true happiness.

The week's main course was Tuesday's self-defense workshop, "Fear Be Gone!" Room 404 of Taylor Hall was so packed that chairs had to be carried from across the hall to make seats for everyone. The first half of the workshop was a talk by staff members from

the Student Outreach and Wellness Center about the legal definition of sexual assault and how one should respond to such cases. The second half was run by a university police officer who talked about his own experience with sexual assault cases and gave tips on how to distract and escape from an attacker.

"We might think it's funny when we hear phrases such as 'poke his eyes,' 'kick his groin,' or 'stab him with your keys,'" said Ahn, "but when we're put in a situation where our lives depend on it, we will be thankful that someone taught us such skills."

On Wednesday, Oct. 1, alpha Kappa Delta Phi sold its popular "Support My Rack" T-shirts on the Warren Hall patio, and continued to sell them throughout October.

"One of our sisters who lost her nanny (who was a second mother to her) to breast cancer came up with the idea [for the shirt's slogan]," said Ahn. During the month of October, the 16 sorority members sold over 500 shirts and made \$3,000. With other fundraisers, they raised a total of \$7,000.

"Our goal is to raise \$8,000 or more," said Ahn. One hundred percent of the proceeds benefited the Susan G. Komen Foundation, the world's largest breast cancer awareness and research foundation.

"I'm proud to attend a university where students don't just sit idly by, but have the generosity and the initiative to help raise money and awareness for such an admirable cause," said senior Theresa Egan. "I think it's impressive what those girls have done."

Thursday's event was a showing of the film, "Breast Cancer Diaries," a documentary about a former local news reporter and anchor named Ann Murray-Paige who was diagnosed with breast cancer at age 38. "Ann's video diaries offer an intimate chronicle of a young mother's nine-month journey with breast cancer, punctuated with humor, poignancy and romance," said Ahn.

Over 100 students turned out to watch the film; every seat in the Showker room was filled. The film highlighted the importance of early detection.

"Cancer is hard to beat, but it is easy to treat at its early stages," said Ahn. "Self-breast examination and annual mammograms have saved thousands of lives from breast cancer, and women as young as 20 should learn how to conduct self-breast exams, because every woman is at risk."

Self-confidence, self-defense, early detection and fire safety: all of these valuable lessons were taught to hundreds of eager students during the third annual Combat Women's Violence Week.

It was an important week for an important cause, made possible by the 16 generous women of alpha Kappa Delta Phi.



**LEADING** the first part of the "Fear Be Gone!" workshop, graduate student and Sexual Assault Prevention Coordinator **Megan Brill** defines sexual assault. Varner House offered a series of weekly group meetings that also included body image, eating disorders and coping with anxiety. Photo by Angela Barbosa





By Colleen Mahoney

# Cultured Cuisine

The small city served up a variety of ethnic foods

**W**ith food choices from almost every continent and a wide array of countries, it was not necessary to hop on a plane to take one's taste buds on an adventure in the small city of Harrisonburg.

Classy, warm and inviting, the downtown Ethiopian restaurant, Blue Nile, was both healthy and environmentally conscious. By using free-range local lamb and eggs, the owners supported the local economy and gave their food a fresh taste.

"Our food is flavorful and filling," said Mickey Arefaine, the general manager of Blue Nile. "Ethiopian people are known for having healthy food to begin with, but we also take measures to go the extra step." Arefaine said they used organic ingredients in some dishes, such as their well-known peanut butter soup.

With a lunch buffet priced at about \$10 and dinner entrees from \$8 to \$18, Blue Nile was an exotic, reasonably priced restaurant that students, tourists and locals enjoyed.

"A lot of people told us the Valley wasn't open for Ethiopian food, but the Valley has welcomed us," said Arefaine. "I'm definitely impressed with how many people are willing to try something new."

The recipes came from Arefaine's mother, who was born in Ethiopia. The restaurant played Ethiopian music, and colorful woven baskets decorated the original, historic walls.

Arefaine believed that by going to independently owned restaurants, "you're giving back to the community and you're actually experiencing the town. You don't get that with corporate restaurants." Harrisonburg had choices that appealed to every taste

palette. Arefaine believed the small city was on par with bigger cities, such as Charlottesville, when it came to the number and authenticity of ethnic restaurants.

"They had good service and they explained everything [on the menu]," said senior Holly Kable. Each entrée came with injera, a type of flat bread that Kable found to be filling. "Moving from D.C., Harrisonburg has a better restaurant selection than I thought they would," said Kable. "I think they have a good variety, I just don't know how authentic they all are." Although Harrisonburg covered a large range of different foods, she wanted to see more than one good restaurant for each type.

Moving away from Africa and into Asia, Taste of Thai was a popular place to eat among students—so popular in fact, that the restaurant had to be expanded about five years ago to accommodate the growing number of customers. With an elegant yet casual atmosphere, Taste of Thai offered tasty Asian favorites.

Tom Phonelath, a chef and family member of the owners from Thailand, raved about the student workers and the delicious food. "I [have] worked at so many restaurants before and came here to put it all together," said Phonelath. With sophisticated decoration in the dining room, entrees ran from about \$9 to \$17. Popular dishes included crispy beef, sesame chicken and pad thai, according to Phonelath.

"The quality [of the food] is really good, that's why it's really busy on weekends," said Phonelath. Taste of Thai employed

**HANDWOVEN** baskets from Ethiopia decorate the walls of Blue Nile. The restaurant used some locally produced and organic ingredients in its meals. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*







**CHEFS** Soon Yong Hong and Bayat Bileg prepare fresh sushi for a hungry customer. "It's really hard to find good sushi in Harrisonburg, so it's great that this place exists," said junior Rebecca Schneider. Photo by Megan Mori

many students part time, and with the restaurant being just down the street from Memorial Hall, it was a convenient location for undergraduate workers.

"The food is good, not too heavy and just different. There are not really any other Thai places in Harrisonburg," said junior Steve Whitsitt. "I've been there like five or six times. They do carry out too. So it's cool, you just call ahead and pick up good food."

Whitsitt believed Harrisonburg housed a wide assortment of ethnic food. "But it's hard because unless you know the area, it's difficult to find a good ethnic place to eat," said Whitsitt. He emphasized the trouble students without cars had in finding different restaurants throughout the city.

Xenia, a Mediterranean kebob grill located on Burgess Road, offered a casual setting and low prices. Run by a family from Kurdistan, a country where the food was nearly identical to Mediterranean cuisine, Xenia's food was genuine.

Friendly with the customers, manager Zana Hama had not heard any complaints since the opening of the business three years ago. "The food is healthy, good food. It's fresh, cheaper and we have lots of good vegetarian sides."

Pictures of Greece, Italy and Kurdistan were placed under clear tabletops and gave customers visions of where the recipes came from. Although a small eatery, the food was packed with flavor and spices. With hummus and clay-oven pita bread made fresh daily, customers left satisfied, and often spread the word of the great food, according to Hama.

With meals ranging from about \$5 to \$10, Xenia's prices and quality appealed to students. Xenia encouraged the student population to come by offering 15 percent off with a JMU Access Card and was in the process of allowing students to pay with FLEX.

The restaurant opened because Harrisonburg was home to about 100 Kurdish families, and they wanted a familiar place to eat, according to Zana. The eatery later served a diverse population of loyal customers in the mood for a Mediterranean meal.

"I love it when I see new customers over here, and they try the food and they like it," said Zana. "We are one of the only places in

Harrisonburg with this type of food."

Junior Amanda Coates said she had not tried many different ethnic restaurants around Harrisonburg. She enjoyed Kyoto Japanese Steakhouse, where the food was cooked on stoves in front of the seated customers. "It was just everyone wanted to go out to dinner. It's a little expensive for me though," said Coates.

Students often went to Kyoto for special occasions such as birthdays or dates. The chefs were well-trained, cracked jokes and interacted with the customers while they cooked.

While the authenticity of ethnic restaurants in Harrisonburg was sometimes questioned, many were owned and managed by families coming from different countries around the globe. Blue Nile, Taste of Thai and Xenia were all examples of restaurants run by families who knew their culture's food well. Although on-campus dining services offered a wide selection of food types, many students chose to try something daring and new. Through this vast assortment, students were able to explore the tastes of the world without leaving the 'Burg.



**SHOWING** off his chopstick skills, Xavier Beverly eats at Sushi Jako. Sushi Jako is a Japanese-Korean Restaurant located on Neff Street. Photo by Megan Mori





# GetUp & Go Out

By Lianne Palmatier

Creatively themed parties spiced up the night

College students, friends, fraternity brothers, volunteers, and sometimes, ninjas. Throughout the year, students hosted hundreds of theme parties. Regardless of whether a student played the high school hottie or the alien, chances were there was a time when he or she chose a costume in lieu of the regular wardrobe.

"Actors get to be someone else onstage," said sophomore Jackie Knight. "At a theme party, you get to embody a different personality."

But costumes were sometimes slightly embarrassing. "My friend went to a 'holiday' party," said senior Jessica Herninko. "She went as Labor Day and naturally, dressed as if she were pregnant. On her walk home, someone pulled over and asked if she was all right."

Many students enjoyed rehashing their nights and discussing the outfits they'd seen.

"I love looking at all the crazy pictures afterwards," said junior J.B. Brown.

Facebook was often the vehicle to get the word out about the existence of a theme party. Through Facebook's invite feature, suddenly 100 friends could be made aware that Thursday was highlighter night, Friday was for togas and Saturday had a beach theme.

Some students relished the creativity required for the themes.

"The best part about theme parties is the preparation," said junior Casey Wheeler. "For a '90s party, I created a playlist for each year of the decade. It was approximately 120 songs."

**THE '80s** are well-represented by neon colors, flashy pants and tube socks at a theme party in the Forest Hills apartment complex. "We threw my cousin a 21st birthday party," said senior Leslie Cavin, "and I got to wear a big purple dress—it was awesome." Photo courtesy of Kate Gibbs





**REPRESENTING** their favorite football teams, sophomore Aimee Huynh, and juniors Lindsay Williams, Jessica Sok and Christabelle Darby show off their jerseys. Allegiance to sports teams varied among students from different areas. Photo courtesy of Theresa Finley



The '90s party seemed to replace the '80s parties of years prior. While students could dress in their leggings and heavy makeup, choosing slap bracelets and babydoll dresses was popular as well.

"I think '80s parties are overdone and a '90s party is new and different," said senior Shelby Trumble. "It's because you remember the music and there are a lot of good memories of when you were in elementary school."

Other creative themes ranged from the Anything But Clothes party, where students could create outfits out of everyday items, to the Robots and Ho'bots theme, which made plentiful use of aluminum foil.

Theme parties often had somewhat degrading titles but most people took them in stride. CEOs and Corporate Hoes was standard. Students dressed in sexy "professional" clothes. Ties and secretary-esque glasses made the event playful. The preference was to go all out despite any embarrassing garb.

Some students preferred parties with an easy theme so that they could party hop without looking ridiculous. However, other students wore their costumes as a badge of pride to show they had been out at a theme party.







**POSING** as husband and wife, junior Kate Gibbs and sophomore Ashley Hill imitate couples that elope. Sigma Sigma Sigma sisters celebrated "Vegas Night" for their theme party. Photo courtesy of Kote Gibbs

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Actors get to be someone else on stage. At a theme party, you get to embody a different personality.

-sophomore Jackie Knight

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**PUMPED** up, freshman Emilee Haverkamp rocks out to the song, "Call On Me" from a Jock Jams medley. Jock Jams came out with five volumes, a "Megamix" and an "All Star" volume. Photo courtesy of Thereso Finley

Ransacking the Goodwill stores and thrift shops scouring for great costumes, student getups often sparked conversation.

"I wore a Mickey Mouse jersey, spandex bike shorts, jellies and a beaded choker at my '90s party," said Trumble.

Senior Richard Kelsey said, "I've been to many kinds of theme parties. They're great and a good chance for people to get together. It's a great icebreaker that allows you to dress up completely different than usual and have fun while doing it. A creative theme gives the event a really great mood."

Some theme parties, however, tended to be exclusive events. While strangers were usually welcome at regular parties, a theme party often denied guests who hadn't dressed up.

"I would suggest only having theme parties if it's your close friends, because it's not that much fun with

strangers," said senior Dana Martinez. "It can get awkward. Usually, I'm going to more than one place and the costume wouldn't be appropriate. In that situation, I'd rather go to a regular party."

"I only like theme parties if I'm in the mood and if I know everyone at the party," said Herninko. "Sometimes I don't feel like trying to put together an outfit."

Theme parties were also foe to the procrastinating student. "I don't usually go to theme parties," said senior Mike Reed. "I'm probably the least forward-thinking person ever and I literally procrastinate everything, so theme parties don't fit into my lifestyle."

Whether students were passionate or aloof about theme parties, the parties provided a chance for quite a few laughs and made the typical night seem much more significant. "You get to wear things you never would get to, making the party more memorable," said sophomore Meghan Huber.



**DANCING** the night away, juniors Heidi Linenfelter and Rachel Lafferty celebrated their friend's birthday. The party also had a "portrait booth" for people to take 80's prom-like pictures. Photo by Leslie Cavin



# The Park

## A Walk In

Students went  
off campus  
for  
scenery and  
leisure



**AFTER** accidentally kicking his ball to seniors Sarah Shell and Jaclyn McArdle, junior Julian Rude converses with the girls before returning to his leisure activity. Rude took advantage of the sunny day in October in the Arboretum. Photo by Rebecca Schneider

**S**unny skies, the sound of a nearby basketball game, and the smell of freshly cut grass invited students out of their apartments and into the community. Weather permitting, there was always a crowd at one of the parks in Harrisonburg.

"The parks incorporate more of the Harrisonburg community outside of the college crowd," said long-time Triathlon Club member, senior Katherine Welling.

Many students agreed that it was a nice change of pace to be around different age ranges and to surround themselves with Harrisonburg community members, rather than just students. "There are more families and kids in the parks," said Welling.

So which park did students love the most? It was all relative. Welling, who practiced for triathlons with her club for many months of the year, preferred Hillandale Park. "It has some cool mountain bike and running trails," said Welling. In addition, Hillandale Park had 12 picnic areas, a basketball court and a volleyball court.

The members of Triathlon Club took advantage of Hillandale Park every chance they could. "The tri-club

does our end-of-the-year cookout at the picnic areas in Hillandale," said Welling. "We also have done road cycling races that leave from Hillandale."

Emily Meholic, a senior and resident of the Sunchase Apartments, preferred a different park. "I am a big fan of the Arboretum because it's so close to where I live."

This scenic and beautiful park was the perfect hike to campus for many students who lived in either Sunchase or Stonegate Apartments. "It takes less than 10 minutes to get to the east side of campus from Sunchase," said Meholic, who tried to walk to campus every chance she could. "It's a great alternative to taking the bus or driving and it's very relaxing."

The Arboretum was popular among students for its combination of relaxation and exercise. "The trails through the Arboretum are great for taking walks and there is even a pavilion for picnics," said Meholic.

On the weekends, many people came to the Arboretum to feed the ducks in the pond, study at the picnic tables, or talk with friends in the shade of the trees.

"There are always local families there and it's fun to see the kids playing and the parents enjoying a part of the [university] campus," said Meholic.



For senior and avid sports fan Katie Fitzgerald, Purcell Park was her favorite place to hang out on the weekend. "I love that you can walk through the trails and see all the football teams and little league teams practicing," said Fitzgerald.

Along with a walking trail, the park had three picnic areas, a Kid's Castle playground, four tennis courts and ball fields with concession stands. With many places to play, it was no wonder that teams gathered so often in Purcell Park.

The park was also a great place for university clubs and organizations to get together. Meholic was an active member in Alpha Phi Omega (APO), the coed service fraternity, a group that took advantage of Purcell Park whenever possible.

"We hosted our brother party there," said Meholic. "We decorated a pavilion and brought food and set up all of our activities for the brothers around it."

APO also grilled food and played kickball at Purcell Park for fellowship events. "It's a great place for organizations to host events, especially in the fall when the weather is nice," said Meholic.

Senior Mary Martin, the president of APO, tried to organize as many events as she could at the parks. "I like Purcell because you can be surrounded by little kids playing t-ball games while

your university organization is playing a game of flag football," said Martin.

Out of all the parks in town, Purcell Park attracted more of the Harrisonburg community. "I like Purcell Park because it brings together the students from [the university] and the Harrisonburg community," said Fitzgerald.

On warm weekends, the park was filled with families. Whether the kids played on the playground, couples walked their dogs on the trails, or teams practiced in the fields, Purcell Park offered a welcoming environment.

The parks in Harrisonburg offered students plenty of places to eat, play and exercise. But how did they hold up in comparison to the Quad on the university campus?

"Sometimes the Quad is a bit overcrowded," acknowledged Welling, "but that's part of the atmosphere."

"This year, with the construction...on South Main Street, the Quad loses some of its appeal," said Fitzgerald, who admitted that she tried to spend more time at the parks as a result of the tunnel construction at the end of the Quad. "I think it's going to be really conve-



**DRESSED** in sweats, university students brave the cold for a run in Purcell Park. The park boasted 67 acres, including a 1.5-mile trail frequented by students and Harrisonburg residents. Photo by Rebecca Schneider

nient when it's finished and the Quad will look beautiful again. But during the construction, I would rather be at Purcell Park."

Meholic still enjoyed the Quad's atmosphere, despite its current construction. "I like the Quad because it's good for people-watching and for meeting your friends," said Meholic. "I like that I know whenever I go there, I'm going to see someone I know."

Martin, also a member of Student Ambassadors, took a different perspective on her love of the campus green. "To me, the Quad signifies all the history that's been there, with the tunnels under it and the old buildings around it," said Martin. "However, I like the parks because not everything there is purple and gold and I feel like part of the community and not just stuck in the university bubble."

Many students at the university took advantage of the warm weather every chance they could. Whether students raced bikes with the Triathlon Club at Hillandale Park, walked to campus through the beautiful Arboretum, or caught a game of flag football at Purcell Park, every park had something to offer.



By Jeff Wasserboehr

# Beau•ti•fall

As the weather grew colder, students appreciated the change of seasons

**I**n a great American farmer's town 60 miles southeast of Harrisonburg, James Madison's former estate, Montpelier, stood tall. The fourth president of the United States built his home on 2,750 acres of rolling hills and rich deciduous piedmont forest.

The university's Fall Colors Tour was a trip to the prestigious forest, sponsored by The Edith J. Carrier Arboretum and led by Norlyn Bodkin, a retired biology professor who taught at the university.

"Its main focus was, of course, on plants. We try to do things that introduce our participants with anything that might be different in the plant world," said Bodkin. "So when you think of a 300-year-old forest, that's a real treat. It's an educational thing too. A lot of people don't know a whole lot about botanical science."

The expedition embarked on a damp autumn day in mid-October, a testament to the spirit of the people who showed up. A cold rain fell from the sky and landed in the soil, arising again only to hover above the leaf-carpeted trail floor as mist. The white Chevrolet Astrovan suited for 12 people left the Arboretum's parking lot sharply at 8 a.m., housing a collection of damp rain-jacketed nature enthusiasts from the Rockingham community, side-by-side with a few students. The objective was to see some of the most massive trees in Virginia as they thickened and further implanted themselves deeper in the soil over the last 200 to 300 years.

Walking through the forest, tour participants could sense its historical presence.

"There was almost something indescribable about it," said senior Cathleen Chen. "And even in the rain and bad weather, the natural beauty of these giant trees took precedence over our wet clothes."

Bodkin found the expedition extremely moving as well. "I was really impressed, and I've been a botanist

all my life," said Bodkin. "And it was still just striking."

In 1700, the Piedmont region was an extravagant 8,000-mile stretch of undisturbed hardwood deciduous forest. Hickories, tulip poplars and an assortment of oaks stood tall in the dark rich Davidson soil of East Appalachia. More than 300 years later, most of that same Piedmont land had been developed into sprawling towns and cities as the population grew.

"Oh, much of the Piedmont region has been modified by man," said Bodkin. "But you've got these isolated places like 'The Big Woods' that have never been clear cut or modified. It's remarkable."

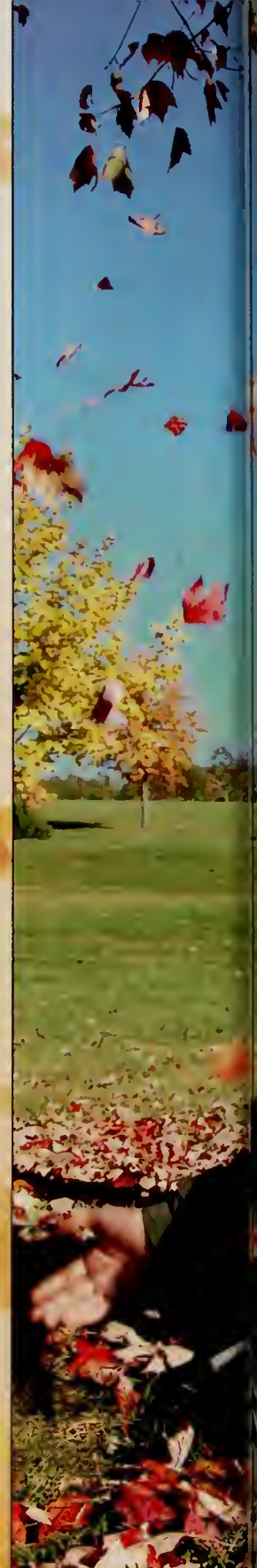
The trail turned out to be fascinating from a historical perspective as well. As students and members of the community endured a two-mile hike through The Big Woods, they glanced at oaks that had been planted shortly before James Madison himself walked the grounds. There was an emotion that was tough to describe when the landmark forest was thought of from this historical perspective.

"People get to see what our primitive forest was like," said Bodkin. "It gives you a little perspective of what it might have looked like when the early settlers came upon the new world. What you're actually looking at in The Big Woods, is exactly what the early Europeans and settlers saw."

James Madison laid eyes upon the trees when they were 20 to 40 years old. A student had the ability to look at the exact same set of trees 200 years later, as they had broadened and flourished. Trees weathered from wind, rain and time.

"It was a trail of history, of learning," said Chen. "It was a haunting experience to say the least. It was definitely one of those experiences where you know it is going to stick with you."

The massive poplars and oaks stood frozen in time, shedding orange, red and yellow leaves all over the forest floor. Bark-encrusted veins slithered like lightning rods up the 120-foot trunks of the trees. And what was truly remarkable about these trees, was that in other soils, the same genus of tree, whether it was an oak or a tulip poplar, would have been about two-thirds the size they were in The Big Woods, fully matured at 80 feet rather than 120 feet.



**ENJOYING** the mild temperatures of autumn, senior Alissa Walsh plays in the leaves. Tours went to Shenandoah Valley to appreciate the fall foliage. Photo by Megon Mori

“There was almost something indescribable about it. And even in the rain and bad weather, the natural beauty of these giant trees took precedence over our wet clothes.”

—senior Cathleen Chen





**LEADING** the way, a Montpelier employee takes a group of students and community members on a colorful tour of the estate in Orange, Va. Despite the rain, the Fall Colors Tour took place in on October 25. Photo by Jeff Wasserboehr

The forest was declared a national historic landmark officially in 1960, and in 1983, Marion Du Pont Scott gave the land to over to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The U.S. Department of the Interior kept the land under protection and in pristine condition since its indoctrination.

"The stretch is the best example of a mature forest dominated primarily by *liriodendron tulipifera* and *lindera benzoin* in the Piedmont of eastern North America," according to Albert E. Radford, a biology professor at the University of North Carolina.

"While this experience is not as striking as the Redwoods of the West Coast, you get to see some of the best of what the deciduous-type forest can offer," said Bodkin.

The forest continued to thrive and its future looked to be ensured by the people maintaining Montpelier. A new trail through the landmark Big Woods had been proposed and was in the process of being passed. The proposed trail would cover another stretch of Piedmont land that had been inaccessible for hundreds of years. The charming forest was a delight, and guided tours were offered throughout the spring and fall.





# Stick 'em Up

By Matt Johnson

## "Reno 911!" actors perform standup for students

**"I**'m a racist, a--hole, prick... and I play one on TV," said Carlos Alazraqui, one of the "Reno 911!" TV stars who performed a stand-up act at the university on a Friday evening.

Alazraqui and Cedric Yarbrough, well known for playing Deputies Garcia and Jones on the Comedy Central show, "Reno 911!," gave a comedic performance to an enthusiastic crowd in Wilson Hall on Oct. 24.

Alazraqui began the show solo by cracking jokes about Virginia, Senator John McCain and President-elect Barack Obama, and himself.

He also commented about how to create world peace: flushing toilets. He joked that if people would flush after themselves, instead of leaving a "present" for others to see, the world would be a much happier place.

Alazraqui then asked if anyone drank, and the crowd went crazy in response. This led Alazraqui to reminisce about his days as a college student.

"My two roommates," said Alazraqui, "they used to pour beer in a humidifier to see if they could get drunk while they slept."

Alazraqui ended his solo performance by playing the harmonica before he was cut off by Yarbrough's entrance, accompanied by "Eye of the Tiger." The interruption spurred an "impression-off," similar to a dance-off or walk-off for performers. Alazraqui wowed the crowd with his impressions of Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, but Yarbrough won the crowd with his impersonations of Bill Cosby and Gnarls Barkley. His win led into his solo act.

After finishing his rendition of "Crazy" by Gnarls Barkley, Yarbrough informed the crowd that he had only been doing standup for two weeks, and that he was not as professional as Alazraqui. He did, however, offer some advice for college students.

"Now is the time to f--k people," Yarbrough yelled at the audience.

Yarbrough's solo act led into a brief video segment of some of the funniest moments on "Reno 911!." Once the clip had ended, Alazraqui and Yarbrough walked on stage dressed in their uniforms as Deputies Garcia and Jones.

They then allowed the audience to ask questions about themselves and their co-stars. One student asked whom they would eat first if they were stranded on a desert island. The victim was Raineesha, played by actress Niecy Nash.

Another student asked the cops how many drugs they were on. "Is cocaine a drug?" asked Yarbrough.

"I just call Rush Limbaugh for my drugs," said Alazraqui.

"I just call Rush Limbaugh for my drugs," said Alazraqui.

They finished the show by having an audience member, freshman Michael Obeng, come on stage for improv. Deputies Garcia and Jones questioned Obeng about the armed robbery of actress Halle Berry.

"It was so fun," said Obeng. "It was so exhilarating being up on stage [and] being up there with them. Being up close and personal with them like that, and performing, it was really good."

Freshman Alex DeSisto, an avid fan of "Reno 911!," also enjoyed the show.

"I thought [the show] was amazing," said DeSisto. "'Reno 911!' is one of my favorite shows and they're both hilarious."

DeSisto's favorite part of the show was Yarbrough's impression of Bill Cosby, but he was surprised about how good the actor was at stand-up comedy.

"I was surprised, I'd never seen Cedric do any stand up," said DeSisto. "I've seen Carlos on Comedy Central, but Cedric was actually pretty funny."

Even those who were not avid fans of the TV series were able to find humor in the performance. Senior Mike Livesey, who had only seen a few episodes of "Reno 911!,"



**CAMERA** in hand, Carlos Alazraqui takes pictures of co-comedian Cedric Yarbrough. Yarbrough, who opened the show, left shortly after this scene as Yarbrough took center stage telling "big dick jokes." Photo by Natalie Woll



**AFTER** making his big entrance and falling to the floor, actor Cedric Yarbrough grabs his leg as part of his routine. Yarbrough, who played Deputy Jones on "Reno 911!," made his debut halfway through the show to "Eye of the Tiger." Photo by Natalie Wall



thought that the show was funny and entertaining.

"[My favorite part] was probably the transition between the two comedian's separate acts," said Livesey. "How they were acting [together] was really funny."

Senior Sean Santiago, vice president of marketing and communication for the University Program Board (UPB), said that the show went well, and that it had met their expectations. He explained that a list of available performers was provided to UPB, and committee members picked who was most relevant to the university.

Before "Reno 911!," Alazraqui was known for his stand-up acts, as well as for his voice work on many animated movies and cartoon series, most notably as the voice of Rocko on "Rocko's Modern Life."

Yarbrough's career picked up after he starred in "Reno 911!." Since his character on the series began, he had appeared in small roles in many motion pictures, such as "The 40-Year-Old Virgin." In addition to the show, he was also known for his voice work on the Cartoon Network series, "The Boondocks."

A nearly full Wilson Auditorium saw the two TV stars and comedians visit the university.

"It was a great show," said Obeng, "and the people that missed it really missed out on something funny."



**POINTING** towards the audience, comedian Carlos Alazraqui does an impression of former president Bill Clinton. Along with playing Deputy Jones on "Reno 911!," Alazraqui was featured on Comedy Central's "Premium Blend." Photo by Natalie Wall





**ENERGETICALLY** speaking to students, President-elect Barack Obama gives his stance on the "green" issue and what he plans to do. Many people who stood in line pre-rally were given green pieces of fabric, which they waved.

"going green." Photo by Schneider

# Yes

By Joanna Brenner

We Can

A week before the election, President-elect Barack Obama rallied on campus

As many Americans tuned into their favorite news broadcasting networks covering one of the most historic elections in U.S. history, cold and sleepless students huddled together in a line that started at entrances E and F of the Convocation Center and snaked all the way around the University Recreation Center (UREC). They ate food, read books and played card games as they waited in anticipation for doors to open for President-elect Barack Obama's rally.

The last presidential candidate who visited the university was Stephen Douglas—in 1858. He ran against Abraham Lincoln.

"Obama is the first major political figure to roll through here in a long time, not to mention it's a week before the election and I'm still undecided," said senior Nick Pasarella. "I'd like to see what he has to say."

It was 2:30 a.m. when the first few people arrived at the Convocation Center for the speech scheduled to begin at 5:15 p.m. The community was not aware of Obama's visit until five days before his arrival, and the news spread like wild fire. Whispers of "Did you hear Obama's coming?" were heard across campus, and life changed for a day.

"I decided to pick up extra hours at Top Dog to cover for people who attended the rally," said junior Jacqueline Wagner. "I worked from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and it was one of the slowest days I've ever worked. The line at Starbucks was the longest because everyone was getting coffee and hot chocolate to keep warm in line all day."

Some professors announced that they would not be taking attendance, while others decided to postpone assignments. But even if professors chose not to, many students put academics on the back burner in hopes of being a part of history in the making.

Students, faculty and community members waited for hours in the cold, until the doors finally opened at 3:15 p.m. The doors closed an hour prior to Obama's arrival, leaving some seats unfilled and many cold fans disappointed at the door, unable to witness the rally from inside. Obama's speech was broadcast on a large screen in Festival, Godwin and Bridgeforth Stadium. He also made a brief appearance on the UREC turf for the crowd of people unable to get a seat in the Convocation Center.

The Convocation Center buzzed with anticipation. Gov. Tim Kaine and Sen. Mark Warner took the stage first, but when Obama arrived and walked down to the podium, the crowd exploded with excitement.

"Being able to shake his hand was amazing. How many people can say they have done that with a president?" said sophomore Andrew Tran, who witnessed the rally from risers behind the podium.

Obama appealed to Duke spirit immediately. "I've heard there is a campaign 'Duke Dog for President,'" said Obama. "I can understand why you might vote for the Duke Dog, but he is not on the ballot, so you might want to try Barack Obama instead."

In the rest of his speech, Obama spoke of his stance on the economy slump, tax cuts, health insurance and the environment.

After speaking about his plan for the nation, he paused and told the audience members that they could sit if they wanted. The audience replied with cheers and continued to stand throughout his 40-minute speech.

Obama's overwhelming appeal made his rally a success for the university's community. The rally and the campaign for change became a major stepping stone in university history as well as national history.





# Secret Society

PostSecret author Frank  
Warren shared the power  
of releasing secrets

By Caitlin Harrison  
& Karlyn Williams



**CHOOSING** 22 postcards to post every Sunday on his Web site proved a difficult process for Frank Warren.

Along with creatively decorated postcards, Warren said he had also received deflated balloons, napkins and Polaroids. Photo by Megan Mori



The line extended past the front entrance to Wilson Hall. By 6:50 p.m., students were still waiting with anticipation for the doors to open for Frank Warren's PostSecret presentation, scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Once the doors opened, students scrambled to find a seat in the packed auditorium. The lights dimmed.

"My name is Frank, and I collect secrets," began Warren.

In four years, Warren had collected more than a quarter million secrets mailed on postcards to his home mailbox in Germantown, Md. On average, he received about 1,000 secrets per week. He posted the "Sunday Secrets" weekly on his blog, [www.postsecret.com](http://www.postsecret.com). Warren chose postcards each week that reflected multiple emotions that were connected through a cohesive theme.

The project began on the streets of D.C. when Warren decided to hand out blank postcards, inviting strangers to participate in a community art project by mailing him their secrets, whether serious or funny.

Four months later, Warren stopped passing out postcards. But postcards continued to pour in—he knew then that the project had a mind of its own. In 2005, The All-American Rejects made a \$2,000 donation to the Suicide Prevention Hotline in exchange for the use of the PostSecret postcards in their music video, "Dirty Little Secret." The Suicide Prevention Hotline was a service that Warren worked with closely.

Warren hit a serious note during the presentation when he mentioned that he received more postcards about suicide, self-harm and loneliness than about crimes or homicides. He told the audience that for the amount of people that the Wilson auditorium held, 75 people would think about taking their lives, and 22

A NEW music video montage plays to conclude the PostSecret presentation, stopping students in their tracks before they leave the Wilson Hall auditorium. The video featured postcards and told the story of how PostSecret came to be and the effects it had on its viewers. Photo by Megan Mori



people were sitting next to people who would actually try it.

Warren was a friend of Reese Bulter, the founder of the Suicide Prevention Hotline. When Bulter needed financial assistance for the hotline, Warren posted the e-mail on his blog and the hotline received about \$30,000 from regular visitors of [www.postsecret.com](http://www.postsecret.com).

When Warren polled the audience, he asked if any of them had sent in a secret. Several hands went up. A girl in the front who raised her hand received one of the four PostSecret books.

Often referred to as "the most trusted stranger in America," Warren went on to describe the different fashions in which he received secrets, including on fruits, vegetables, room card keys and a one-pound bag of coffee. However, he said the most interesting secrets were the ones that he never got to read. One woman e-mailed him and said she tore up her secret before she sent it, because it felt terrible to see it written.

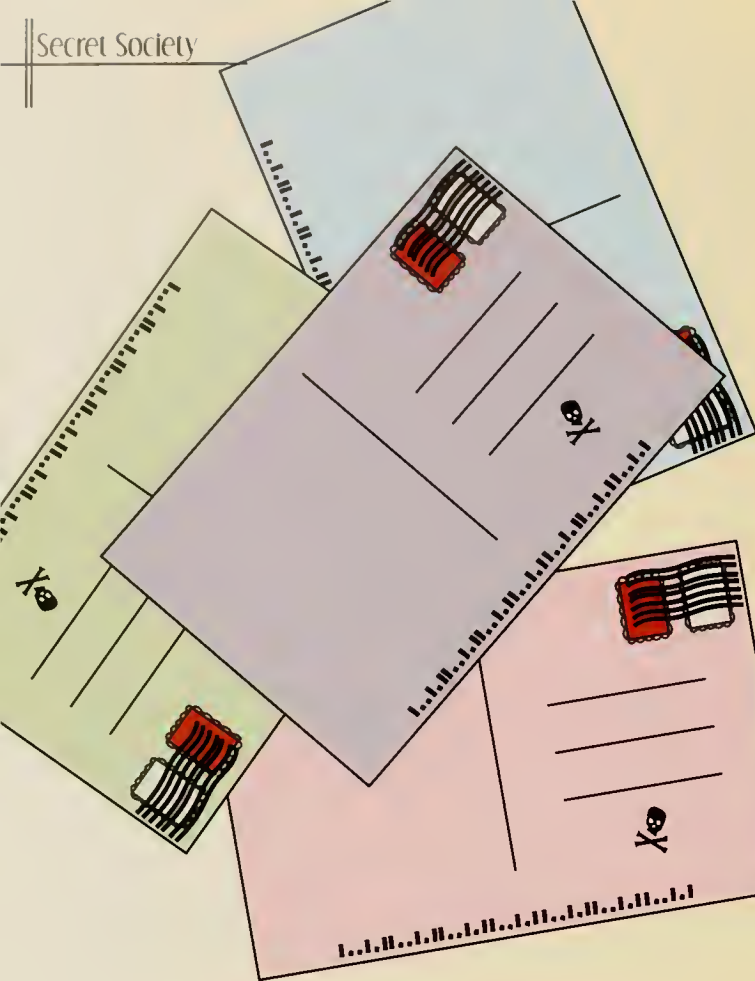
Postcards were mailed to Warren from countries all over the world, and he said he was not surprised by the differences, but by the similarities. The postcards contained similar trends about happiness, funny stories, and sexual taboos, even when they were written in different languages.

"Sharing a secret can be transformative," said Warren. "People can repossess a situation where they felt like a victim and take power."



POSTSECRET books were available for purchase at the event, each conveying a different life story through secrets on the postcard. The next book anticipated to be released would focus on spiritual secrets, private beliefs and passions. Photo by Megan Mori





Near the end of the presentation, Warren invited members of the audience to share a secret or ask a question. Students told sad, dark and funny secrets. One girl approached the microphone and announced that she had her "first random hook-up on the drunk bus...but was completely sober," a statement that received a roaring applause from the audience.

Senior Nishi Vijay was new to the PostSecret community, but liked the idea of sharing secrets publicly.

"I see the purpose because it's therapeutic," said Vijay. "It's shocking but it's great."

University Program Board (UPB) booked Warren after a great deal of student interest.

"Although we did not conduct a poll, we knew in advance that it would be an event that would draw a lot of interest," said junior Rachelle McCracken, director of UPB's arts and culture committee. "It is clear that it did after seeing the amazing turnout!"

The estimated attendance of the presentation was 1,150 people. Campus Assault Response (C.A.R.E.) and Student Wellness and Outreach were two organizations that co-sponsored the event with UPB.

UPB put together a PostSecret project for the university called JMU Secrets to advertise Warren's visit. Students could create a postcard and drop it off in Warren Hall. The postcards were on display in the Warren Hall third floor gallery for the remainder of the semester. UPB also contacted local newspapers and media to get the word out.

Warren had done multiple presentations on other college campuses, and said that the project spoke well with young people because they were more Web-literate and were more likely to share a secret. He also said that he secretly left messages at each school.

The girl who received the book at the beginning of the presentation was lucky enough to find the message in the back of the book, which read, "The world needs to hear your voice." He seemed to be impressed with the willingness and trust of students to share their secrets in front of so many people.

Warren noted, "It's cold outside, but it's warm in here."



**WAITING** for a meet and greet with Frank Warren, students line up by the left wall of Wilson Hall to purchase his books for up to \$30. Books available for sale included, "A Lifetime of Secrets," "PostSecret," "My Secret" and "Secret Lives of Men and Women." Photo by Megan Mo...

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Sharing a secret can be transformative.  
People can repossess a situation where  
they felt like a victim and take power.  
-Frank Warren  
”

**PASSIONATELY**  
describing the origination  
of PostSecret, artist and  
creator Frank Warren  
explains how it all started  
as a small art project.  
PostSecret had grown  
internationally, with  
secrets submitted from  
countries such as England,  
Spain and Brazil. *Photo by  
Megan Mori*





# HOMECOMING

Alumni and family gathered on campus, reminiscing about their past and witnessing the changes

**d**ressed in a bright purple cape and spandex, Madisonman came out once a year to crown Ms. Madison during halftime of the anticipated football game, a coveted honor that culminated the end of a spirited Homecoming week. With more than 10 scheduled events throughout the week, it was hard for anyone to miss out on the abundant Duke spirit.

Kicking off Homecoming was the banner contest with the theme "Duke Dog for President!" The clever contest was a spinoff of the Star Spangled Banner, adding a bit of Duke Dog flair with the "PAW-Spangled Banner." Students who wished to participate submitted banners that were hung in Transitions to be judged. Students were also able to view the banners online and vote for their favorite.

The Commons showed off Duke spirit with "Commons Day." With free food, games and prizes, students participated on their way to class. An eating contest was set up and students could make their own campaign buttons. To end a hard and long-lasting campaign, the University Program Board (UPB) served a delicious late night breakfast in Festival.

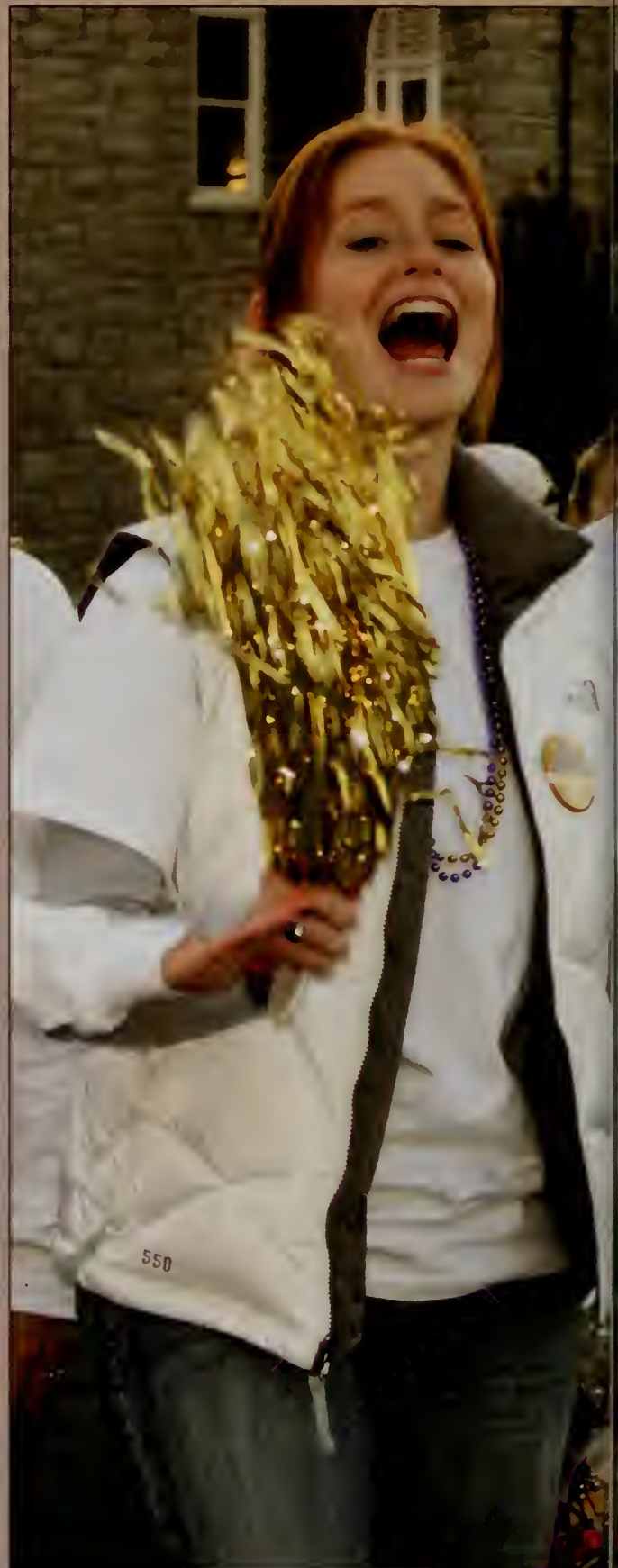
The Homecoming Alumni Golf Tournament was hosted the day before the football game. Since 1999, the event had been available for all alumni, along with their families and friends. Participants who registered joined in on the fun on a warm Halloween morning. Goodies given out included an Alumni gift pack, beverage vouchers, and free breakfast and lunch. An awards presentation was set up for the top three and last-place teams, and the first-place team won an invitation to the Madison Cup.

Later that day was the Homecoming Parade, which began on Duke Drive. Students showed their dedication to Duke Dog by lining up in the streets and cheering on the university's clubs and organizations. The Marching Royal Dukes led the parade, followed by elaborate floats put together by student organizations such as SafeRides and the Student Duke Club.

"Sunset On The Quad" followed the parade with a "Paws and Stripes Forever" theme. The Quad was decorated with a huge blow up Duke Dog and purple banners on every lamp post. There was a moon bounce, trick or treating and performances by a cappella and dance groups. The Student Government Association also distributed "I Bleed Purple" T-shirts.

At the pep rally, the university's first football coach, Dr. Challace McMillin spoke to the crowd about the growing success of the football team. He announced how the football team was the university's first team to win 10 games in a regular season. "We strive very hard for that," said McMillin. A loud roar of cheers followed his comments as students showed their enthusiasm for the team.

Another speaker to address the crowd was alumnus Mark Warner, the vice president of Student Affairs. He started out by asking the crowd four questions: "Do you bleed purple? Do you want Duke Dog for President? Do you love JMU? Will you give money back when you're alumni?" The assembly





# 7: Duke Dog For President

By Jen Beers



ENTHUSIA  
Saturday's  
University  
students s  
pirit at the  
Homecon  
2008 was  
President  
Amy G





of students, faculty and alumni all answered each question with an enthusiastic and thunderous "yes."

Warner then went on to talk about how friendships should be remembered at the university and reflected on the "Sunset On The Quad."

"When you see a sunset, think of JMU friends. JMU is home, [and] there is no place like home," said Warner.

On Saturday, the third annual Homecoming tailgating contest took place prior to the game. Tents, balloons, university pride and delicious food filled the parking lots. Alumni, current students, family and friends joined together to have a good time and prepare for the game.

When it was time to pack up the tents, Bridgeforth Stadium filled up quickly. Purple and yellow filled the stadium's stands as dedicated and excited fans got pumped up for the game.

Homecoming marked another win for the university's football team. With a victory over the University of Delaware, 41-7, the football players gave the university another reason to celebrate such an incredible weekend.

"I never made it to the football game last Homecoming, so this year was the first time for me," said sophomore Chelsea Bowles. "It was the perfect day and the perfect win. All the fans in the stands were so proud to be a part of JMU that day."

At halftime, President Linwood H. Rose and his wife presented seniors Andy Gibson and Chiquita King with the title of Mr. and Ms. Madison. Gibson and King were both elected by their peers and each showed an extreme amount of love for their university.



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*It was the perfect day and the perfect win. All the fans in the stands were so proud to be a part of JMU that day.*

*-sophomore Chelsea Bowles*

”



**ENJOYING** a plush ride, nominees for Ms. Madison participate in the parade the day before the winner is announced. Chiquita King was nominated by SGA, interviewed as a top-ten finalist and voted on by the student body to win the award. Photo by Amy Gwaltney





**TAKING** pictures to document his last Homecoming at the university, senior Brandon Bebout snaps a shot of the T-shirt distribution on the Quad. Students lined up two hours in advance to get small and medium shirts with the writing, "I Bleed Purple" on the back. Photo courtesy of Alex Jerosa

**SPARKLING** with pride, senior class president Macon Hollister shows her love for purple and gold. Spirit beads were sold at the bookstore and were a popular accessory for students. Photo by Leslie Cavin





**FACE** down in plates of cereal, students compete in a no-hands-allowed eating competition. The event was part of Commons Day, which celebrated "Land of The Free, Home of The Dukes." Photo by Leslie Cavin



"When applying for Mr. Madison, they say he should embody the spirit of the university. But going beyond that, he should be someone who gives back on behalf of themselves and JMU," said Gibson.

Their parents, along with the 2007 Mr. and Ms. Madison winners, accompanied Gibson and King on the field when they received the award.

A second award was also given out when the winner of the banner contest was revealed. In first place was Madison Equality, and in second place was Student Ambassadors.

A performance by the Center for Multicultural Student Services (CMSS) on Saturday night brought the weekend to a close. CMSS' step show in Wilson Hall included over 150 student performers and volunteers.

"All CMSS wants is to have fun with JMU alumni and our current students as we showcase the hard work of our Greek Student Leaders," said Martin Ispizua, program assistant for CMSS. "This show is meant for our students to meet and reunite with alumni that could provide opportunities for employment or just connections with the world outside of college."

Homecoming was more than just parades and football games. It was a time where current and previous students of the university could bring out their purple and gold gear to celebrate their Duke pride.



**ILLUMINATED** by the spotlight, baritone Thomas Tombes, a sophomore in Exit 245, croons a Ben Harper cover. Exit 245 performed as part of "Sunset on The Quad" alongside dance groups and a DJ. Photo by Amy Gwaltney



The cheerleaders  
 performed on Friday  
 evening. The event offered  
 a great time for  
 everyone.



Senior kicker  
 Daniel Adams, on the  
 team, pumps up the crowd  
 for the next day's game.  
 The team's victory over  
 University of Delaware  
 was its eighth straight  
 win, making it the longest  
 winning streak since 1980.  
 Photo by Amy Gwaltney



## Home

**O**n bright sunny days at the university, many students flocked to the Quad. Some lay in the sun, while others threw a Frisbee. The entire area was covered with students enjoying one of their favorite on-campus hangouts.

From the Quad to Taylor Down Under (TDU), it was easy for students to find a favorite spot, whether it was a building, lawn or dining hall.

"I really like the Arboretum," said junior Paige Abe. "You can go on hikes with your friends and there's a really nice area to sit around the pond."

Abe also enjoyed the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum because she thought it was like getting off campus. It had a quiet and peaceful atmosphere, and was a great place to sit and think. Other students, however, preferred a more social environment.

"[I like] the Quad because you can pretty much see everybody there," said sophomore Emily Samulski. "It's a social place. I feel connected to the rest of the campus because everyone has to walk through there to get to class."

Sophomore Kyle Seymour agreed. "The Quad's always nice because there are so many people there that it's a friendly environment to just relax between classes," said Seymour.

TDU was also a popular place among students. Senior Sondra Vitaliz enjoyed TDU because there was always something going on, whether it was Funny Freakin' Fridays or live music. Vitaliz found TDU to be a very "relaxed and comfortable" place. When it came to socializing over a meal, however, she preferred D-Hall.

"D-Hall [is my favorite place to eat] because I feel like it's a place where people can get what they want," said Vitaliz. "It's slower and not so fast-foodish. I find dining halls to be a great place to hang out after you're done eating. One time at D-Hall I stayed and talked for two hours after I was done eating."

Some students had mixed feelings concerning the popular dining place.

"Entering D-Hall is a range of emotions," said sophomore Jason Ginnow. "First there's anticipation, and then there's either sadness or extreme jubilation, depending on what they're offering."

With the university ranked No. 5 in the nation for best food according to the Princeton Review, students had the opportunity to pick their favorite meals from a large variety of dining options.

"I like eating at Festival because of Cranberry Farms and the crepe breakfast place," said Abe. "I usually find it to be pretty busy, but when you actually sit down to eat, it's pretty laid back."

“ “

Entering D-Hall is a range of emotions.  
First there's anticipation, and then there's  
either sadness or extreme jubilation,  
depending on what they're offering.

-sophomore Jason Ginnow

” ”

**METICULOUSLY** lining up his shot, sophomore Byon prepares to hit the cue ball during a rousing game of pool at Taylor Down Under (TDU). Along with pool, TDU offered students Java City, board games and live entertainment. Photo: Angela Barbosa

# Away From Home

By Matt Johnson

Students found comfort in popular campus spots







**LOUNGING** in the sun in front of Wilson Hall, juniors Jordan Cole and Lauren Root engage in a conversation about their studies. The Quad was a favorite spot on campus for many students, whether it was to study between classes or to simply relax. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



beside the Kissing Rock on the Quad. The legend of the Kissing Rock stated that if one kissed his or her significant other on the rock, they would be destined to wed. *Photo by Angela Barbosa*



**A SWEATER** acts as a makeshift pillow as sophomore Amanda Benton dozes on the couches on the second floor of the Carrier Library. Many students utilized the comfortable couches and the solace of the libraries for a quick nap between classes. Photo by Angela Barbosa

Another favorite dining facility was Market One, a facility that offered pizza, burgers, sandwiches, soup and a Java City coffee bar.

"Market One [is my favorite] because they have the best food and easy access to coffee," said Samulski.

For some, dining facilities also provided a place to study.

"I really like to study in Top Dog early in the morning because I can sit down at a booth with a cup of coffee and I have enough room for all of my books," said Abe.

Others preferred a quieter atmosphere to study. Samulski liked to study on the second floor of Carrier Library due to limited traffic, which allowed her to focus more on her work.

Some changes to different areas of the campus, such as furniture changes at TDU and the reduction of the Airport Lounge (APL) in Warren Hall, left some students

Abe agreed. "I was really sad when I saw that they changed the APL, when they made it smaller, because space is already so limited around campus."

Samulski believed that the changes to the APL and TDU made those areas less accessible and less inviting because students knew that they were not guaranteed a place to study since so many people used those areas.

Vitaliz believed that the changes made to TDU and the APL were a step in the wrong direction on the university's part. "The school needs more [places to study and hang out]," she said. "I feel like there aren't that many places to just sit down and relax."

On the other hand, the opening of the East Campus Library (ECL) created a new place for students to study and hang out.

"I feel like the opening of the new ECL has cleared out some of the on-campus hangout spots," said Abe. "So I don't feel like there's anymore to place to hang out and study."

Whether it was studying in the library, in a dining hall, or in a hangout spot, students found ways to study and hang out. "I feel like there aren't that many places to just sit down and relax," she said. "I feel like there aren't that many places to just sit down and relax."





# Fright Fest

Reserve activities encouraged Halloween spirit around campus

**Y**ou could hear people screaming from the forest as you stood in line. Men and women dressed up in Halloween masks, sneaking up on students and breathing heavily. The trek through the haunted forest hadn't even begun.

In addition to dressing up in store-bought or home-made costumes for Halloween, students found festive ways to keep the spirit of the holiday alive. Harrisonburg and neighboring cities hosted a slew of activities to offer the public during the month of October.

One of the closest and most popular Halloween attractions was Fear Forest, located off Route 33 in Harrisonburg. In its third year running, visitors to Fear Forest walked or ran through a haunted forest. On first arriving to the attraction, which was located in the middle of nowhere, event-goers were taken into the forest on a hayride.

The hayride traveled on a dark pathway to the actual forest, where students and Harrisonburg residents stepped off the hayride, bought their \$7 ticket, and waited in line for their turn to enter. Closer to the entrance, screaming was heard from inside the mess of trees. The entrance was made up of a black wooden structure with narrow walkways. Fear Forest employees hid in the entrance, breathing deeply as groups walked by.

Once in the forest, the pathway wound and dropped. As the path moved on, participants encountered haunting scenes, including an old man cooking a body part over a fire and a possessed little boy running out to a group of people. Women called out for help and creatures jumped out from behind trees.

Tents were set up along the pathway with different themes

such as a spider motif. As groups of people walked through, motion-sensored spiders moved across the tent and spider-like webs hung down. Event-goers feared for their lives when men with chainsaws came up behind them and made a startling noise.

"Be scared to enter the Fear Forest," said senior Brittney Pearce. "Watch out for the chainsaws...they will come after you."

Another scene in the forest was an old trailer with bloodstains all over it, with a little old woman sitting outside by a fire.

Junior Ashley Barbee went to Fear Forest with her sorority the previous year as a sisterhood event and vowed to go every Halloween. "It's different from all the other haunted places I've been to," said Barbee. "It's so dark in the forest that you don't know what to expect next. The hayride to the forest is a nice added touch too."

Darkwood Manor, located in downtown Luray, Va., was another frequently visited attraction among students. This haunted house comprised many rooms and narrow hallways, each room attributed to a different movie set. Actors dressed the part and played a significant role in the experience of this haunted place.

One by one, groups entered the house and were greeted by the "theatre" owner and a gothic-looking wom-

“Be scared to enter the Fear Forest. Watch out for the chainsaws... they will come after you.”  
—senior Brittney Pearce

**HOLLOWED** out, a carved pumpkin makes an unusual mask for sophomore Eric Daley during the Homecoming tailgate. Because Halloween and Homecoming fell on the same weekend, many students who tailgated before the game also dressed to show their Halloween spirit. Photo by Amy Gwaltney







**FOLLOWING** a paper stencil, junior Gina Velasquez takes on a difficult pumpkin carving design. Students bought pumpkins at stores like Wal-Mart or picked their own pumpkins at local farms. Photo by Tiffany Brown

en holding onto the popcorn machine. As groups made their way through the house, they encountered various scenes from films such as "The Mad Scientist" and "Indiana Jones."

Customers also had to go through a corn maze on the outskirts of the premises. People were hidden throughout and jumped out as the groups made their way back inside the haunted house.

"I thought it was really scary and I screamed the whole way through," said junior Jen Methvin, a first-time visitor. "I would definitely recommend [it to people] for next year. Go early in the evening though, because the lines get insane."

Of course, there were other fun Halloween activities to take part in besides the scary stuff. Many students visited local farms to go pumpkin picking, navigate corn mazes and look at animals.

"I have never been to a real pumpkin patch," said junior Theresa Wakenight. "As a child, my family would take my sister and I to get an already picked pumpkin, so I was really excited to be able to experience picking my own pumpkin this year."

Students often frequented Hess' Greenhouse, just two minutes from city limits. Named "Back Home on The Farm," Hess' Greenhouse provided a three-and-a-half-acre corn maze for students and families. Each year, the maze had a theme, such as horses. In addition to the main maze, Hess offered a few smaller mazes for children and another called the "Cat's Cradle Maze," where people had to find their way out through tricky pathways.

Visitors could also watch as cows and goats grazed in their pens, where some students snapped pictures of the animals.



**EXPERIENCING** his first Halloween, Mateo Kurtz prowls around in his bear costume at Fall Fest, hosted by Our Community Place (OCP), a non-profit organization that emerged from the Free Food for All Soup Kitchen held at The Little Grill. Fall Fest offered live music, a costume contest, homemade root beer floats and pumpkin decorating, among other activities. Photo by Rebecca Schnedier





By Steph Synoracki

# Personal Touch

## Personal Touch

Painting unique pottery was an enjoyable pastime

**S**tudents looking for alternative entertainment to the usual party scene found a new and creative way to spend their weekends: You Made It! Paint Your Own Pottery.

Located in downtown Harrisonburg across from the Massanutten Regional Library, You Made It! offered people of all ages a chance to create their own ceramic masterpieces to add to their homes or give as gifts.

You Made It! was run by a local mother and son: Joan Clasbey and David Miller. Clasbey came up with the idea when her daughter gave her a hand-painted utensil holder that matched her kitchen. Clasbey found the gift touching and personalized. A few weeks later, Clasbey saw a young couple going on a pottery date set up by Oprah. At that moment, You Made It! was conceived. Miller came back from school and dedicated himself to helping his mother.

Every person who walked through the door of You Made It! was

greeted by Clasbey or Miller. From then on, they assisted the customers in creating their art.

"When someone walks in the door and asks what to do, I tell them to pick anything they want to paint," said Miller. "Our job is to show you how, from zero painting ability to the graduate level."

Customers chose a table to work on and then scoped out the room for the pottery piece of their choice. You Made It! had everything from picture frames to dog bowls to vases. Sample pieces were displayed to show different painting techniques.

Once customers picked the pieces they wanted to paint, Clasbey and Miller helped them get the supplies they needed. Supplies varied from an assortment of paints to sponges, brushes and stamps.

"The employees were super nice and helpful," said junior Erin Mahoney. "They were more than willing to teach me a cool bubble technique to use on my pasta bowl."

You Made It! hosted many events throughout the year. Fraternities and sororities often held special events at the downtown pottery place. Kids of all ages and even some teenagers had their birthday parties there. Some corporations planned corporate outings to You Made It!.

"People think going to a place like that would be really expensive, but you can spend as much or as little as you want. It is definitely worth the money," said Mahoney. As Miller explained, customers paid the amount of the piece plus a 50 percent studio fee.

Junior Adam Sutphin decided to go to You Made It! and see what he could do. "I feel like You Made It! is one of those undiscovered treasures downtown," said Sutphin. "It offers a nice alternative to what most consider a typical weekend at JMU. And a tip for all the guys out there, it's a great place to take a date...it lets her get to know your sensitive side, even if you don't think you have one."

You Made It! became such a popular place to go that University Program Board (UPB) held a college night there. Sarah Sunde, student and activities involvement administrator, thought of the idea while she and her friend were at You Made It! over the summer. Sunde received a grant "to offer Friday night events to provide alternative entertainment for students to show them that there

**A COLORFUL** spread of paint lines the wall, providing senior Elizabeth Bihn a rainbow to choose from. With such a large variety of paint, ceramic objects and artistic methods, students could create personalized pieces of art. Photo by Natalie Wall







are more things happening at JMU and in Harrisonburg than just partying. "From that, You Made It! night was born!"

Junior Annie Blewett, UPB special events head, executed Sunde's idea. "We had approximately 100 students come throughout the night ... You Made It! was so packed that some people had to wait for a table," said Blewett. Shuttles ran from campus to bring over students who lived in dorms.

College night was "crazy, but great" according to Miller. With four kiln loads of pottery, Miller and Clasbey were up until 1 a.m. taking care of it all. "The students produced beautiful work and they were quite proud of themselves," said Miller.

Even though Clasbey and Miller were kept busy during college night, they had a great time seeing friends bond over their pieces and laughing at the silly techniques.



**BRUSHES** and paint in hand, junior Leilani Ching gathers needed supplies during the University Program Board's (UPB) event. "I contacted [You Made It!] and they were thrilled to open for students," said Student and Activities Involvement Administrator Sarah Sunde. Photo by Natalie Wall



# Igniting Change

By Katie Thisdell & Beth Principi

Students impacted the community while impacting themselves



**WRAPPED** up like a mummy, bigs and littles participate in Lutheran Presbyterian Campus Ministry's Fall Party for Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Rockingham County. BBBS matched university students with elementary students in the area. Photo by Katie Thisdell

**L**ike a fire, the enthusiasm spread through dorms and classrooms, into local elementary schools and soup kitchens. The flames of hard work helped build friendships along the way. Students ignited the campus and community with their service.

Serving free lunches on Mondays, teaching sports for Special Olympics on Tuesdays and visiting with nursing home residents on Wednesdays were just some of Alpha Phi Omega's (APO) weekly projects.

They did not stop there. Members of the university's chapter of the national coed service fraternity also built houses following Hurricane Katrina, cleaned pet cages at the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) and harvested vegetables for local food banks.

Throughout the university, students carried on this spirit and committed themselves to serving the community. Whether through classes, organizations or personal dedication, they showed their care and concern for others.

"We start with small service for the brotherhood, then reach out to the community and then globally," said senior Mary Martin, president of APO.



**SEEDS** drop to the ground as senior Alison Glace plants potatoes and onions at Volunteer Farm in Woodstock, Va. Volunteer Farm provided freshly grown produce for local low-income families. Photo by Leslie Cavin



**TOYS** and monetary donations are collected by seniors Matt Portner and Chris Beino, brothers of Theta Chi during the ninth annual "12 Days Project." The proceeds of this year's event were donated to Harrisonburg's Habitat for Humanity and Mercy House. Photo by Natalie Wall



The 73 brothers committed to at least 30 hours of service per person each semester, but most went beyond that requirement. With over 2,000 hours in past semesters, the spirit of helping others strengthened in its members.

"I think everyone can serve in some capacity," said Martin. "Even if you think it's insignificant, everything is a big deal."

Senior Caitlin Anzalone, the vice president of service for APO, remembered her first service experience cooking lunch for the Free Food for All Soup Kitchen hosted weekly at the Little Grill Collective. The weekly project that moved across the street to Our Community Place became one of Anzalone's favorite projects.

"It's so easy to connect to people there," said Anzalone. "And I love cooking, so it's a great match for me."

Forming relationships with the community was vital for the brothers. Whether meeting with a child weekly at the Salvation Army after-school program or teaching an adult to play basketball for the Special Olympics, the personal connections reinforced the importance of the group's dedication to service.

"You get to know a lot of people," said Martin. "It's those smiles from the athletes you're teaching how to play basketball that mean everything. It's not an 'us versus them' mentality. We all work together."

Not all of the brothers' service projects were tied to APO. Some just wanted to spread the light into others' lives.

For instance, Anzalone became a Big through Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) because of her interest in helping kids. She ate lunch with her 8-year-old Little weekly at his school, and cheered him on at his football games.

"I love kids, and this is one of those things where being one-on-one and getting to build that relationship makes it worth it," she said. "A lot of kids in this community really need that attention."

**TEETH** in hand, senior Sarah Marr teaches a student at a school in Nicaragua the proper way to brush his teeth. Marr went to Nicaragua through one of the many Alternative Break programs offered by the university. Photo courtesy of Shari Kornblatt

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It was rewarding, affecting someone's life in a positive way by just being a friend.

-sophomore Ellen Peterson

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**HASTILY** gulping, Dave LaRosa competes in the hot dog eating contest for "Rock for R.A.K." Alpha Tau Omega sponsored "Rock for R.A.K.," which stood for Random Acts of Kindness. Photo by Caroline Blanzaco



**CROUCHED** down in a flower bed, sophomore Stephanie Kissam plants flowers for The Big Event. Sponsored by the Student Government Association, The Big Event focused on bridging the gap between Harrisonburg and the university community. Photo courtesy of Nicole Ferraro





**HANDS** fly as the ladies of Zeta Tau Alpha compete in a charity volleyball tournament. ZTA also participated in "Rock for R.A.K.," which was held on the Rockingham County Fairgrounds on Sept. 2.  
Photo by Caroline Blanzaco

Since college students rarely had a chance to spend time with kids, BBBS was a popular organization. Bigs were matched with Littles between the ages of 6 and 18. Whether through a school-based match such as Anzalone's or a community-based match, BBBS helped Bigs and Littles develop lasting friendships.

Senior Rachel Wheat hoped to be a role model for her Little and teach her the value of education.

"I think it's important to encourage Littles and be a positive force in their lives," said Wheat. "This program provides opportunities that they might not have."

According to Amanda Kearney, the executive director of BBBS of Harrisonburg-Rockingham County, about 66 percent of Bigs comes from the university. "It certainly is an important institution for us," said Kearney.

Many wanted to make a connection in Harrisonburg by helping local children, according to Kearney.

"What better way to give back to the community in which you live, whether as a permanent resident or as a student, than by having fun with a child who could use a friend?" said Kearney.

Wheat also volunteered each week at the front desk of the Harrisonburg Rockingham Free Clinic, giving out medications and interpreting Spanish for patients.

"It's a great experience and helps me keep up with my Spanish," she said, describing how community service could help both parties involved.

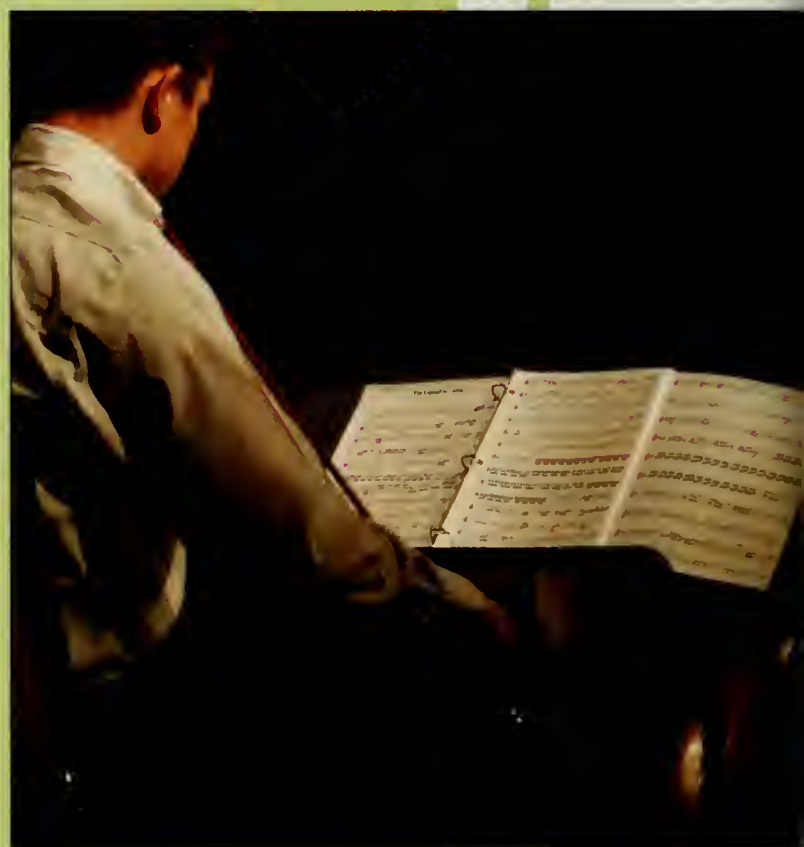
"Volunteering has really shaped my college career and who I am," said Wheat. "It really opens your eyes and gives you a new perspective on life."

The flame of service spread to the university's curriculum, too.

Wheat said service was a requirement for her practical Spanish course. Students met in the classroom to discuss various issues and then used the language to help others. Once a week, they taught English to Hispanic adults at the Career Development Academy in Memorial Hall.

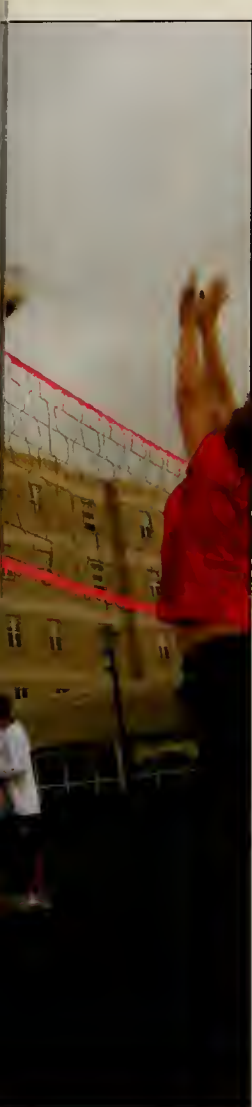
"It was so rewarding to work one-on-one with students who were trying so hard to learn English," she said. "Volunteering is as much a commitment as you want to make it."

Community Service Learning (CS-L) was a university office that made partnerships like this happen. It joined students, faculty, staff and members of the surrounding community by planning service opportunities. CS-L coordinated with more than 75 community service agencies to help better residents' lives in the



**JAMMING** out to the "The Legend of Zelda," graduate Chad Schwartz and senior Jacob Roege perform during the Alpha Epsilon Pi Retro Video Games Quartet. The proceeds from the event were divided between the Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem and Chai Life.  
Photo by Natalie Wall





**USING** a trowel to lay bricks, senior Jordan Burdun builds up a wall for a building project in Nicaragua during an Alternative Break program. These programs offered national as well as international opportunities for students to volunteer during their breaks. Photo courtesy of Shari Kornblott



Shenandoah Valley.

The “learning” aspect of service was incorporated into students’ academics when they reflected back on their experiences and how it affected their own lives. The unique learning experience helped to foster a lasting commitment to service for all the students involved.

Through local and international projects, over 1,200 students participated in CS-L annually and helped thousands of people, creating positive memories.

CS-L also coordinated the popular Alternative Break Programs (ABP), which were a rewarding way students could spend their breaks. Instead of the typical trips home or to warmer destinations, students served communities across the world, igniting others to share their cause. Thanksgiving and Spring Break trips ranged from feeding the hungry and homeless in Atlanta, Ga., to helping at a primary school in Treasure Beach, Jamaica. Other groups continued to provide relief in New Orleans for Hurricane Katrina victims.

Back in Harrisonburg, the university encouraged local involvement in the community as soon as students moved into their freshman dorms. One of the programs in the Gifford residence hall was Teer Learning Community. In the program, about 20 freshmen took their general education classes together and volunteered together through CS-L.

Tim Ball, a professor in the School of Communication Studies, taught the general communications course for Teer. Following the CS-L model, he tried to associate what they learned in the community to class content.

“This is different from just volunteering because with service, we want them to reflect afterwards,” said Ball. “We want them to try to see that there are connections.”

Many students came from privileged backgrounds, he

said, and were unaware of Harrisonburg’s social issues. Through community service, Teer exposed freshmen to their new city and issues they might not otherwise have seen.

In the fall, Teer participants volunteered for two days with Habitat for Humanity. They built a fence and cleaned the organization’s Bridgewater office.

“There are some people who like to do service on their own, but it’s more fun to do in a group and have that shared experience,” said Ball.

The university’s Habitat for Humanity chapter sparked involvement in communities all around Virginia. By building homes, students gave people in need a place to live and raise their children.

“Habitat works in partnership with people in need to build and renovate decent, affordable housing,” said senior Sara Christie, secretary for Habitat for Humanity. Students worked side-by-side with the future owners of the homes.

“The families put in hundreds of hours of their own labor into building their homes and the homes of others,” said Christie. “Their mortgage payments go into a revolving fund for Habitat that we used to build more houses.”

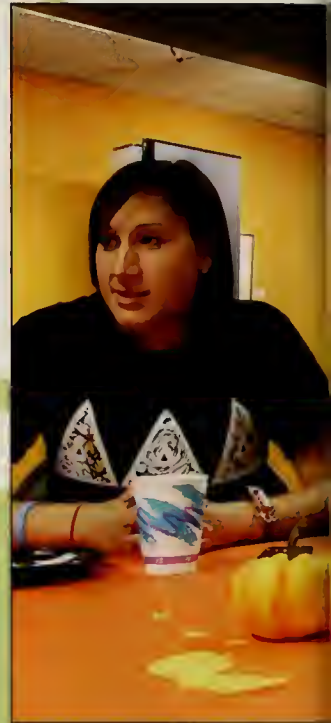
Sophomore Maggie McGraw said there was no better feeling than building a house for families in need. “It’s nice to meet the people who are going to eventually live there,” said McGraw. “They are so grateful.”

When members showed up on sight, they did not know what to expect. Some days they laid down foundations, and on other days they painted walls and shingled roofs.

“You never know what you are going to be doing, and that is why it is so exciting,” said McGraw.



**GIVING** thanks, junior Samatha Fitzgerald and Jill Courson and senior Evin Page, talk with Harrisonburg community members. Sorority and fraternity members gave back to the Harrisonburg community by putting together a thanksgiving dinner, with enough food for 70 people. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



**LETTING** off some steam after a busy day helping at the Volunteer Farm in Woodstock, Va., members of Student Ambassadors jump with delight. All food grown by the Volunteer Farm was donated to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. *Photo courtesy of Heather Cote*

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I love kids, and this is one of those things where being one-on-one and getting to build that relationship makes it worth it. A lot of kids in this community really need that attention.  
-senior Caitlin Anzalone

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**GETTING** Ready for an Italian feast, senior Brent Levy takes bread out of the oven. The Wesley House hosted a Brother-to-Brother night where the Bigs spent quality time with their Littles. *Photo by Megan Mori*



Christie expressed similar feelings about helping the community. "In my opinion, there is nothing better in life than giving back," said Christie. "My goal is to help shape the world into a better place."

Everybody seemed to want to spread the flame of service in the community, including other Greek organizations. Sigma Phi Epsilon was a perfect example of a fraternity that gave back to its community. Its members volunteered around town at elementary school book fairs, giving out Halloween candy on Greek Row, and working with Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance, an organization that worked to revitalize downtown into a prosperous and vibrant city center. Sophomore Tom Pugh, a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, enjoyed being involved in the area.

"Helping out in Harrisonburg gets us involved in a new town away from home," said Pugh. "It helps us feel like we have a new home and gives us a sense of belonging."

Others in the Greek community, such as Sigma Kappa, had their own stories about helping out in their community. The sisters of this sorority tutored children at local schools, held canned food drives and organized a memory walk to raise money for Alzheimer's Research. Many of the sisters also exceeded the required number of community service hours.

Senior Kelly Rowell, president of Sigma Kappa, believed the best part about helping the community was reaching people outside of the university. "Service helps people be humble," said Rowell. "It makes us appreciate the aspects of life that are important."

With their motto being, "Live to serve, Love to serve," members of Circle K International recognized the importance of dedication to leadership and service.

The Kiwanis-affiliated chapter focused their help on children, holding service events for children ages 6 to 13. Secretary of Circle K, junior Alexis Bergen, said their activities included writing letters to fourth grade pen pals and walking with students during the Keister Elementary School walk-to-school days. They also volunteered at the Harrisonburg Children's Museum and participated in Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Freshman Ellen Peterson expressed the excitement in sending letters to a local fourth grader to share their lives. "Most of these kids didn't have the best role models, so it is really encouraging that they have someone to talk to and who will listen to what they have to say," said Peterson.

After corresponding back and forth, the members met their pen pals at the end of the year. "It was rewarding, affecting someone's life in a positive way by just being a friend," said Peterson.

For these organizations to function, the members had to have the dedication to set fire to the hearts of those around them, showing them the importance of service. Circle K ignited the community by finding ways to address the problems. According to Bergen, "Circle K encourages students to be more active in their community, which will hopefully continue to follow them when they become adults."

Bergen's attitude was an example of how many students felt towards helping the surrounding area. The university exemplified selfless acts for the good of the community around them. Bergen said it best: "One person can make a difference, even if it's as simple as brightening someone's day."





# All The Rage

By Casey Smith

Noticable trends spread throughout campus

“Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence on society.” Popular fashion fads throughout the university community revealed that Mark Twain’s quote still reigned true.

During the warmer months, women wore colorful sundresses and accessorized with beaded necklaces, pearls and bracelets that were stacked to cover an entire wrist. Large earrings also proved popular as accessories, bringing outfits full circle.

Lightweight scarves appeared on cooler days to accent a summer dress, often with tights or leggings worn to keep legs warm in cool classrooms.

Women’s manicured toes were displayed in flip-flops or hidden in ballet flats. Both men and women boasted Rainbow brand leather flip-flops that could be purchased at Pacific Sunwear and department stores. Many students appreciated the quality of Rainbows, which were known to last longer than rubber-soled flip-flops. Reefs were another popular brand.

Plaid patterns broke up the monotony of simple dresses and shorts, a trend spotted on both men and women. Students enjoyed the ability of plaid clothing to be casual enough for every day, or classy enough for a date.

“I had five pairs of plaid shorts and wore them almost everyday,” said freshman Cory Valentine. “They were the most comfortable shorts I had ever bought and they went with everything. I could wear a plain T-shirt with them or dress them up.”

Students even sported plaid shoes. Sperry Topsider was a well-known brand, selling boat shoes in traditional leather, unusual colors, and of course, plaid patterns.

“My favorite pair of shoes were my Sperrys,” said junior Meghan Hovanic. “I was looking for a pair of shoes that were comfortable and fashionable and I found the perfect ones. I saw them all the time on campus.”

During the warmer months, many women treated campus as a runway, parading to class in high heels in bright hues of pink, yellow and blue, among others. Espadrilles, heels with a rope or rubber sole made to look like rope, became very popular and were thought to be more comfortable than dramatic heels. With a campus of 676 acres and a seemingly endless number of hills, comfort was a priority for those who walked to classes.

“If I wanted to dress up an outfit or a dress, I wore my espadrilles simply because they were the easiest to walk in across campus,” said freshman Emma Simons. “Most of my heels were too high to wear for a long time.”

Many men on campus usually kept their outfits simple—a pair of shorts and a plain T-shirt. Some could be seen wearing a button-

down or polo shirt from Abercrombie & Fitch or Ralph Lauren, which could be purchased in almost any color.

Most men, however, took the easy route when it came to their outfits.

“I wore a T-shirt and shorts every day when it was warm,” said senior Mike Columbus. “It took me about five minutes to get ready for class in the mornings.”

When temperatures began to drop in November and December, students brought out fur-lined shoes, sweatshirts, fleeces, sweatpants and scarves.

Uggs, suede boots lined with sheepskin, kept feet toasty warm, and even students who did not own a pair of Uggs sported cheaper knock-off versions.

“I wore my Uggs almost every day during the winter,” said junior Jessica Brown. “I have three pairs of them in different colors so I had a pair for almost every outfit. I liked to wear them with leggings, which kept me warmer than I thought they would.”

Uggs were also worn with popular skinny and straight leg jeans. Skinny jeans were easily tucked into Uggs, while the more traditional flare jeans were large enough to go over the boots.

On colder mornings, when students had to pry themselves out of bed, students with early classes often opted for sweatpants and sweatshirts, while those who had more time to get ready in the mornings pulled on tights or leggings, and a long cardigan over top. Heavy coats and scarves were saved for the more wintry days.

Fleeces were chosen over heavy, waterproof winter coats, with the most popular brand names being The North Face, Eastern Mountain Sports and Mountain Wear.

Both brands were available in many colors for both sexes, although black was the most prominent and versatile. Mountain Wear fleeces were lightweight and windproof, while The North Faces varied in thickness and some were water resistant for drizzly days.

To keep all body parts warm, pashmina scarves were popular among the women. The scarves were made of a special kind of cashmere and came in both basic colors and intricate designs. Women often matched their scarves to their outfits for the day.

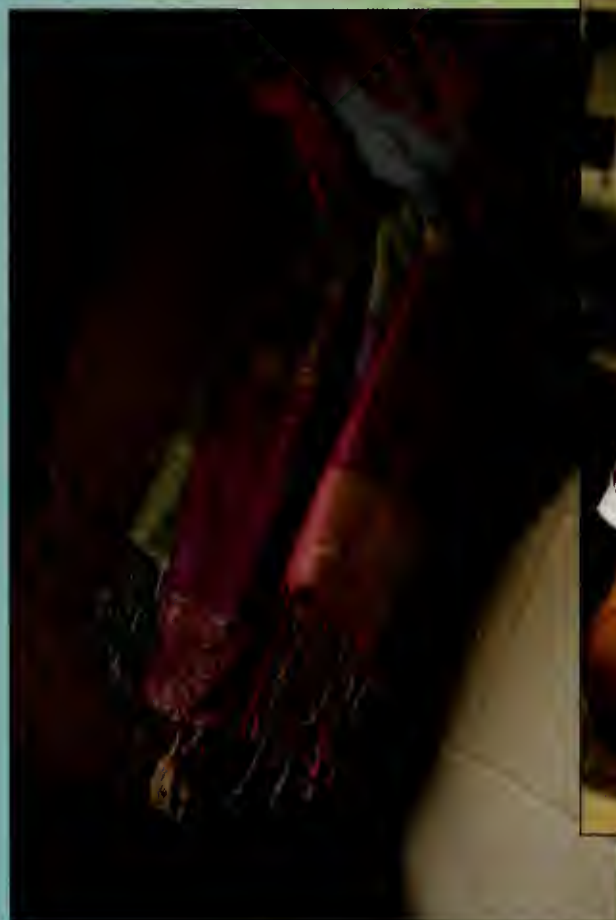
When football season started, students could be seen sporting their favorite teams’ jersey. Redskins, Eagles, Steelers, Giants—all were spotted around campus. Rivalries flared and students also wore other apparel demonstrating support for their teams.

Whether apparel was influenced by popular brand names, the weather conditions or their favorite sports teams, many students found their outfit choices following fads.



**GRAPHIC** sneakers boast a bold Volcom logo. Founded as a grassroots company, Volcom gained notoriety for its "Youth Against Establishment" philosophy and its unique designs. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*

**PROUD** of his original style, freshman **Brendon Jucks** shows off a bold graphic Vurt Polo. Thick plastic glasses were also a popular item among those with poor vision and even those with normal eyesight. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



**CASUALLY** dressed, a student sports a Ralph Lauren sweater and a pashmina scarf. Some students wore cashmere scarves made from a special breed of goat indigenous to the Himalayas, while others chose blends that cost less. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*





# A Spot of Tea

By Caitlin Harrison

Each Wednesday at 4 p.m., Shari Scofield and University Programs (formerly University Unions) invited members of the university community to join them for an afternoon teatime.

"I wanted to bring people together and I wanted to do something different," said Scofield. She hoped the event would create a sense of community among students, staff and faculty.

She researched many other college Web sites until she stumbled upon a similar program at another school. She chose Wednesday afternoon for the teatime because so many students and staff had meetings and classes in the evening. The event was a hit.

"The main reason I kept holding the teatime was because so many people came up to me and told that it made their day," said Scofield.

Junior Kelly Patullo became a regular attendee. "I liked to come every Wednesday because it was nice to see the other people that come," said Patullo. "It was also nice to know that there was something on campus that was free and available for students and professors."

Teatime was held outdoors on the Green Roof Terrace between Grafton-Stovall Theatre and Taylor Hall, a location chosen to draw

attention to the Green Roof and the university's efforts to become a "greener" campus. When the weather became colder and the event moved to the fourth floor of Warren Hall, hot chocolate was also served. Cinnamon and raspberry scones were available to students on a first-come, first-served basis, although they ran out quickly.

When teatime first began, there were a few regular attendees and a handful of people who stopped by on their way to a class or meeting. As it continued, however, teatime spread through word of mouth and more people began to show up.

Seniors Jasmine Banks and Leyla Serway both enjoyed the opportunity for an opportunity to relax. "It's a nice break from a busy day or a busy week," said Serway. "It's a great time to relax and catch up with friends."

Banks agreed. "It's a good way to connect with people and meet new people."

Sophomore Kelly Gatewood worked with Dining Services on the special events committee and helped University Programs serve the tea, hot chocolate and scones. "The afternoon tea is a good time to stop and take a break from work," said Gatewood. "People



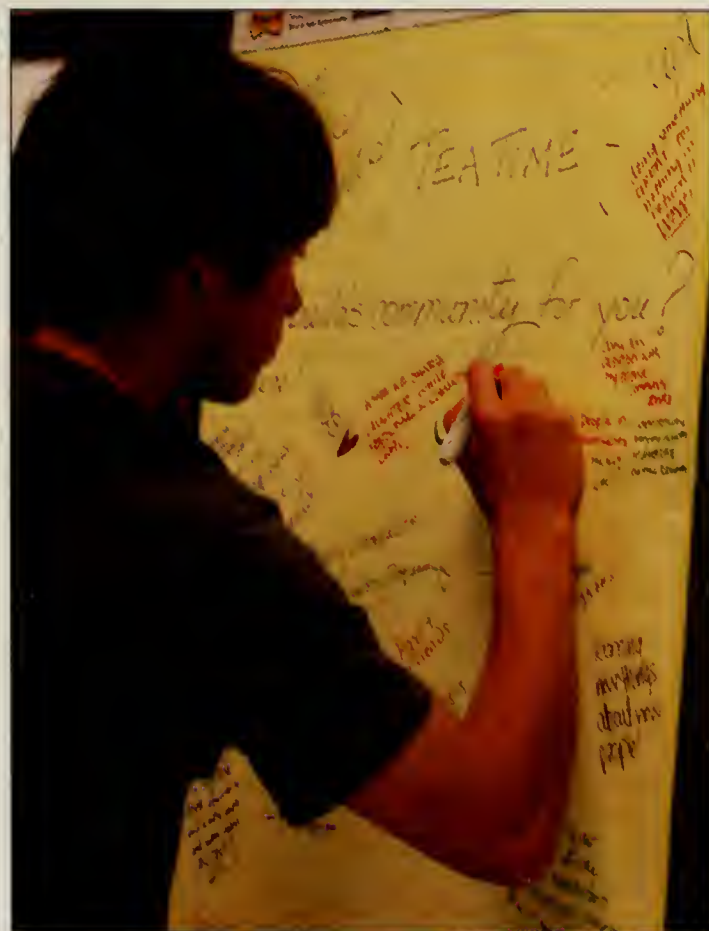
**MUFFINS** and other baked goods are set out by Director of University Programs Shari Scofield in preparation for the weekly teatime on the Green Roof Terrace. The teatime was held every Wednesday between 4 and 5 p.m. Photo by Leslie Cavin

# Tea

Weekly teatime held by University Programs created a new social opportunity



**CUPS** in hand, senior Trisha Farley and juniors Nicole Ferraro and Candace Avalos engage in a humorous conversation over tea and hot chocolate. Originally the teatime was set outdoors, but as the weather grew colder the program was moved indoors to Warren Hall.  
Photo by Leslie Cavin



liked to stop by and say hi."

It was an especially nice break for all the people working in Warren Hall; the free tea and hot chocolate were near their workspaces.

Often the tea would have a large pad of paper displayed with a weekly poll. One poll question was "What builds community for you?" Students wrote answers that usually related to friendship and meeting people at the tea. Sophomore Peter Fisher-Duke wrote that he planned to return to the remaining teas held throughout the year.

The tea was a success, and students, faculty and staff enjoyed attending. "The number of people who attended was not staggering by any means, but the enthusiasm for the program was tremendous," said Scofield. "We make people smile in a big way."

**DILIGENTLY** answering the question, "What builds community for you?" sophomore Peter Fisher-Duke writes out his response. Attendees were asked to give feedback to the weekly question displayed on a poster.  
Photo by Leslie Cavin



# Work It Out

Off-campus employment opportunities attracted students

“One morning, I was trying to speed up the line, so I steamed up more milk than I should have, and while I was walking, I dropped the hot milk onto my legs in front of 20 customers,” said junior Kerry Shannon, a barista at the coffee shop attached to Barnes & Noble. “They laughed at me.”

Barista, waitress, dance instructor, delivery driver, receptionist—full-time students took advantage of the many job opportunities that were off campus in order to either acquire skills that they needed in the future or just to earn extra spending money. Like Shannon, some students had quite the stories to share.

“If you want to know what it’s like working in a kitchen, watch the movie, ‘Waiting,’” said senior Tim Woodland, a grill cook at Texas Steakhouse. “It’s pretty accurate.”

Woodland started at Texas Roadhouse in 2007, after a friend suggested he apply. The best part was free food during his shifts, although working late on weekend nights was not his favorite.

“But they’re really good about working around my class schedule,” said Woodland.

Senior Kendel Hillebrand worked at Ham’s as a server for about two years. After she visited a few other establishments, Ham’s hired her on the spot. She stuck with Ham’s because the managers worked with her class schedule, paid great money, and she grew to love the people with whom she worked. She had previous serving experience, but said that Ham’s was definitely more laid back than the other places she worked for in the past. The employees she worked with were a team.

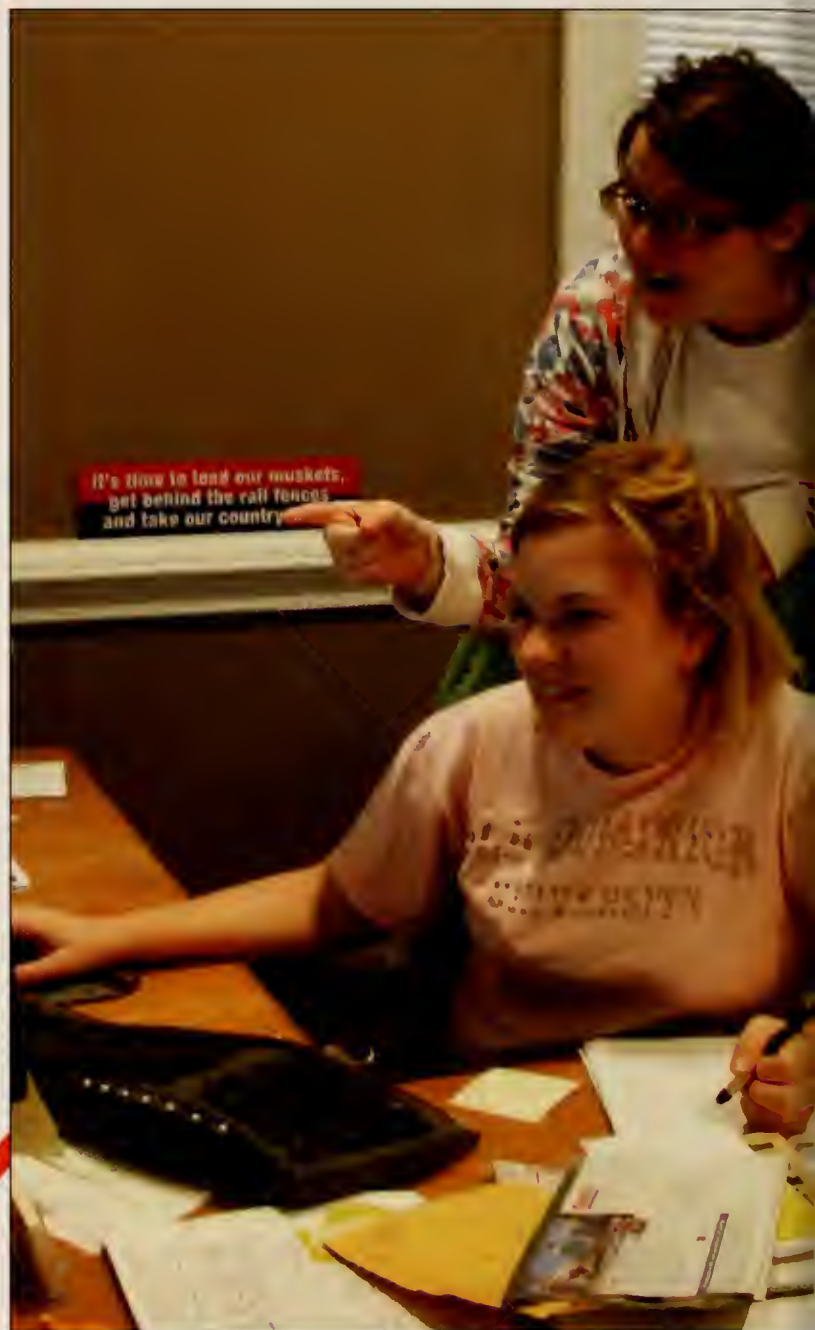
“Everyone helps everyone even when the restaurant isn’t that busy,” said Hillebrand.

Ham’s manager, Fred Watkins, said that he hired students based on elements such as availability, experience and personality. He often had to hire a lot more people during the football season because the restaurant became a lot busier with fans coming to watch the game on the big screen televisions that were mounted on the walls. If he needed 50 servers to cover shifts, he hired 80 because students were available on a limited basis depending on class schedules.

Though Hillebrand was a full-time student, she found working four days a week developed her time management skills.

“You find ways to make it work, whether it is taking off days before a test or looking at your schedule being like ‘Oh, I work on these two nights and I have something due so I need to work on it before those two shifts,’” said Hillebrand.

Sophomore Alyson Young was a dance instructor at Dance & Company downtown. Though it was her first year teaching at Dance & Company, she had experience in her hometown, Pittsburgh, Pa. Young was a highly skilled dancer specializing in tap and ballet. She taught beginning adult ballet and tap to men and women that ranged from high school students to middle-aged women. Teach-



ON a Saturday morning, senior Savannah Bolin and junior Caitlin Merritt review housing applications while working for the Ashby Crossing apartment complex. Bolin and Merritt agreed that it was a good job, and they both knew friends who tried to find a similar job.

Photo by Natalie Wolf

**SHIRTS** are scanned by senior Katie Woltar as she works during a game day at the University Outpost. The OutPost was popular on game days because free gameday buttons were given away to the university community.

Photo by Natalie Wolf



ing the beginning classes the foundation of dance, such as body placement, helped Young brush up on the basic skills of her dancing as well.

The classroom atmosphere was different from what Young was used to and she noticed that the younger students were more uptight than the older ones.

"The older ones were just there to have fun and enjoy a new hobby by that a lot of them have wanted to do for a while," said Young.

Although she was younger than half her students, Young was still-respected by her students because she was more advanced than them.

Young worked two hours a week, with the occasional private lesson on the side. A large staff at the studio meant fewer classes to teach per person.

Each instructor had the opportunity to pick what day he or she wanted to work, but the downside was that each faculty member had to stay until Memorial Day in May, after the semester ended. Memorial Day weekend was when the end of the year recitals took place. But the reward of seeing the students' work presented on the stage of the Wilson Hall auditorium gave a sense of accomplishment to the faculty and dance students.

Young's favorite part of teaching was seeing her students improve from week to week. She was excited when her students successfully did a difficult step that they worked on in class for several weeks. Her least favorite part was when students did not understand a step.

"I get frustrated sometimes when they can't get a step," said Young. "Everyone in the room could feel the negative energy."

Young's job helped to prepare her for a career after graduation. As a double major in English and dance, Young was interested in teaching dance in the future.

Another specialized job was sophomore Samantha Reed's front desk clerk position at the Holiday Inn on East Market Street. Reed started working at the Holiday Inn in October. An average workday as a front desk clerk began by counting the register drawer upon arrival at 8 a.m., checking guests out before noon, and assigning rooms and keys to the guests that checked in at 3 p.m.

She chose to work at the Holiday Inn because she had worked

**MUSTARD** is squirted onto a turkey sandwich by senior **Maira Holt**, as she works at Cinnamon Bear Bakery & Deli. The restaurant served salads, sandwiches, and soups along with breakfast, which was served all-day. Photo by Natalie Wall



for the company in her hometown and loved it. She also took the job because it related her major, hospitality and tourism management. The professors within the major encouraged students to get as much work experience as they possibly could. At the same time, Reed realized that being a student was a full-time job, and having a job made life a bit more complicated.

"Having a real job on top of all the classes and school work has been hard to balance out," said Reed. "However, my work is very flexible and understanding, which helps a lot."

Many students who chose to work off campus were focused on earning extra money for the expenses that college required, while others were more focused on gaining experience. Whatever the reason, students practiced valuable skills like time management, patience and communication to expand their knowledge outside the classroom.





**Promoting the polls,** senior Michelle Woods holds up a sign offering rides to the polls. Woods and fellow members of the College Democrats worked the Commons all day promoting participation in the election. *Photo by Julia Simcox*

**A LINE** extends in front of Stone Spring Elementary School at 7:30 a.m. Many students expected to hit the polls early to beat the rush, but instead waited in line for over an hour. *Photo by Angela Barbosa*



**SIGNS** are held as members of OrangeBand take the stage during the campus's political debates. The successful debate was made possible because of the work done by OrangeBand and the Student Government Association. *Photo by Leslie Cavin*





# Decision

## 2008

By Ariel Spengler

A historic election got students politically involved

**T**he 44th presidential election made history for the nation, but students made their own history during the campaign by becoming highly involved. With many students exercising their right to vote for the first time in a presidential election, they were prepared to hit the polls. Student groups on campus encouraged participation, whether through absentee ballots, or registering to vote in Harrisonburg.

"We have been hitting the ground hard," said College Democrat president, senior David Doyle McKinney. "Knocking on doors, making phone calls, talking to voters and getting out the vote for Barack."

The College Democrats were among the first in line to hear President-elect Barack Obama's speech in October when he came to the university, and acquired front-row seats to the historic event.

"The upcoming election is our No. 1 priority right now," said McKinney, speaking about the organization's goals prior to Election Day. "It's imperative for us to elect Barack Obama as our next president."

Junior Ashton Brown, spokesperson for the College Republicans, lobbied on behalf of the Republican ticket. "I am excited to cast my ballot for John McCain and Sarah Palin, who could possibly be our first female vice president."

Brown, along with other dedicated members of the College Republicans, was also very active in the campaigning months. "We have been making phone calls to voters in Rockingham County, going door-to-door in local neighborhoods, volunteering multiple times a week on the Commons on campus, as well as volunteering for the statewide and local candidates," said Brown.

The Student Government Association (SGA) also organized many election-related activities.

"The SGA held a monthlong voter registration drive through our Legislation Action committee to prepare for the election," said senior Larson Thune, student body president. "Volunteers from the committee had registration forms for nearly all 50 states and

helped students to correctly fill out the paperwork."

Besides helping with registration forms, SGA mailed over 1,600 absentee ballot applications for students, and arranged for free busing to the polls on Election Day. They also organized a debate between College Democrats, College Republicans and Libertarians, which preceded the televised Town Hall debate between Senator John McCain and Obama.

"I've seen a lot of passion from students on both sides," said Thune, prior to the election. "Even if students aren't participating directly in the election, I think they are paying close attention to the issues in the race and the proposals put forth by both candidates so they can make an informed decision on Nov. 4."

The unexpected visit to the university from Obama on Oct. 28 helped to sway voters' opinions, resulting in a Democratic win in Rockingham County, and the first Democratic win in Virginia since 1964.

Obama was the first presidential candidate to visit Harrisonburg since Stephen Douglas in 1858, when he ran against Abraham Lincoln. "I think Obama's visit to campus will really

energize the democratic voters and maybe swing some voters who are undecided," said Thune, prior to the Obama rally.

McKinney agreed, adding, "I've talked about it with many people who are still undecided and they're excited to see him. It might make the difference for many voters who are on the fence."

The presidential candidate's speech was centered on the university students and their priorities. He mentioned tax cuts for those making under \$250,000 annually, as well as his efforts to make it more affordable for young Americans to attend college. He also emphasized the importance of paying teachers higher salaries. And because many college students became active in environmental issues over the past few years, Obama brought up his "green" platform, which students awarded with a round of applause.

"You invest in America and America will invest in you," said Obama.

== “ ==  
*I've seen a lot of passion from students on both sides..I think they are paying close attention to the issues in the race.*  
== ” ==

-senior Larson Thune



== “ ==  
 I'm proud that most of the citizens in this country can look beyond race and gender and simply vote for who they think will do the best job.  
 == ” ==  
 junior Cari Zuckerman

Many students believed that Obama's win would have a profound effect on the nation. When the results were announced the evening of Nov. 4, Obama spoke in Grant Park in his hometown of Chicago.

"It's been a long time coming," said Obama. "But tonight, because of what we did on this day, in this election, at this defining moment, change has come to America."

Students also acknowledged the effect the win would have on the university.

"JMU, and even campuses around the nation, are great social melting pots," said senior William Thomas Webb. "If an African-American is elected president, it will electrify the campus and I am excited to see how race relations, society and our perceptions of politics in general change at the collegiate level if Obama wins."

Brown agreed. "This is a historical election at such a critical time, not only for our country, but also in our own lives when we are entering the job market and living on our own."

Undoubtedly, this election was a historic one. For the first time on the ballot, Americans chose between electing the first black president and electing the first female vice president.

"We are history in the making," said McKinney. "It goes to show how far this country has come in terms of acceptance."

Senior Cari Zuckerman, who watched the election closely, added, "I'm proud that most of the citizens in this country can look beyond race and gender and simply vote for who they think will do the best job."

McCain also spoke about the historic change that would come to America on election night. "A century ago, President Theodore Roosevelt's invitation of Booker T. Washington to dine at the White House was taken as an outrage in many quarters. America today is a world away from the cruel and frightful bigotry of that time. There is no better evidence of this than the election of an African-American to the presidency of the United States."

With the election behind them, college students turned their attention on the years ahead, and the changes that Obama had promised them.

"The road ahead will be long, and the climb will be steep," warned Obama on election night. "We may not get there in one year or one term, but America, I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there."

The university students appeared ready for the uphill battle.

"We are usually written off as uninvolved, but I see a change," said Webb. "We are seeing a major shift in generational politics and I am excited to be a part of it, as I believe everyone else here at JMU is."





JOKINGLY, Kevin Wilborn  
prepares for the election on Nov.  
4. Life size cutouts were just one  
of the ways students showed their  
involvement in the election. Photo  
by Angela Barbosa



**CHEERS** can be heard from the Salem High School football stadium as Gov. Sarah Palin campaigns in Roanoke, Va. The rally was scheduled to be held in the Salem Civic Center on Oct. 27, but because of the size of the crowd, the event was moved outdoors to the stadium. Photo by Amy Gwaltney

**GOV.** Tim Kaine, President-elect Barack Obama and Sen. Mark Warner join hands during the rally held in the Convocation Center on Oct. 28. Kaine and Warner provided the introduction for Obama's anticipated entrance. Photo by Rebecca Schneider





# Blast From The Past

By Nicole Brigagliano

Youthful activities made students feel like kids again

For college students, Mondays meant the start of a new week of classes and homework.

For freshman Matthew Jung, it also meant his Monday night ritual: bowling at Valley Lanes. Jung enjoyed bowling with a group of friends at a special discount rate of \$2 for shoes and \$2 per game.

"It's cheap, that's a priority," said Jung.

Louise Shirkey, a cashier at Valley Lanes for about 25 years, welcomed university students who came to bowl.

"They love our cosmic bowl," said Shirkey.

Cosmic bowl was offered Friday and Saturday nights from 10:30 p.m. until 1:30 a.m., with disco lights and music pumping. Valley Lanes also had another special on Wednesday nights: buy one game, get one free.

"You bring your friends and have a good time," said Shirkey.

On a Wednesday night, second year graduate student, Karol Mendoza, wore a smile as she stood waiting to skate around the rink at Funky's Skating Rink.

"I don't know how to skate," said Mendoza, laughing.

It was the second time this year Mendoza and other sisters from their sorority, Gamma Sigma Sigma, had gone to Funky's Skating Rink, harking back to the popular childhood activity.

"It's really cheap and it has good music," added sophomore Isabella Fuentes.

Joanne Wills had bought Funky's Skating Rink three months prior and saw quite a few students come to enjoy themselves.

"On a Wednesday we get about 30 [students] or so," said Wills. "They just seem to know each other."

On Wednesday nights, it cost \$1 to get in and \$1 for roller skates, \$3 if one wanted roller blades or inline skates instead.

"We know they don't have a lot of money," said Wills. "It's a good place for people underage and people who want to stay out of trouble."

Wills hoped to start a college night in the future. She wanted to include not just students from the university but from Bridgewater College and Eastern Mennonite University as well.

"I think it would work better if they had their own night; it's fun to mix with your own age group," she added.

Other ways to be a kid again were seasonally based.

When October rolled around last fall, junior Kelly Mayhew and her two friends had a pumpkin carving party, where they played fun music and carved four pumpkins over a two-day period.

"It was Halloween. Obviously we can't go trick or treating any-

more, so it was a good way to still do something fun," said Mayhew.

After getting pumpkins at Wal-Mart, Mayhew, her housemate and a close friend carved a pirate ship in one pumpkin, a window with a silhouette of a cat and spider in another, and the wicked queen from Snow White in another.

"It seems so simple and childlike, but it's still a lot of fun and a nice way to take a break," said Mayhew. "It only happens once a year."

Junior Lindsey Merritt recalled going sledding last year during the winter months.

With a small group of friends, Merritt sledded down the hill in front of the Integrated Sciences and Technology (ISAT) building, or





**JOKINGLY** pointing at their friend buried in the leaves, sophomores Laetitia Bergeron and Kelly Gatewood find time to goof off between classes. Leaves on campus and in Harrisonburg parks, part of the exquisite fall foliage in the Shenandoah Valley, provided ample opportunity to play. *Photo by Donovan Seow*

"rolled" according to Merritt.

It was a great way to talk and meet other students and share laughs. For her, the best part was getting to be creative.

"We were making up sleighs out of paper bags and other objects," said Merritt.

Merritt also remembered going ice-skating on what she calls the "awkward pond" by ISAT.

After seeing two other people ice-skating on it, Merritt and her friend decided to join in the festivities.

"Sometimes you get caught up in your schedule of classes and going to work and you don't take advantage of the spontaneous things that pop up," said Merritt.

The best part about going ice-skating for her was the impulsive nature of the idea. "It totally reminded me of being a kid, like those snow days you had when you were younger," added Merritt.

There were also activities located within a short drive of the university.

The Safari Zoo, located 60 miles south on Interstate 81, offered a thrill for adventure seekers.

For \$12 a person, customers could drive their cars through a safari filled with animals including camels, llamas, zebras and ostriches. There was also an option to pay for a bucket of food to feed to the animals as they approached the car.

Junior Candace Workman did the hour-long ride with her mom earlier in the semester. "The animals are very accustomed; they know that cars equal food," said Workman.

For the price, one was able to drive through as many times as desired. Workman explained that it was a different experience whether driving or riding as a passenger. Workman and her mother drove through two times, allowing each to experience the zoo to its full potential.

The Safari Zoo offered a guided wagon tour for an additional small fee.

"It was very, very fun," said Workman. "It was the most fun thing I've done that's close to school and not in Harrisonburg."

With activities varying by season and places like bowling alleys and skating rinks, no wonder students loved to act like kids again.



**HAPPILY** pumping his legs, junior Todd Jones pushes off to swing higher. Parks like Purcell with a playground often proved enticing for students. *Photo by Kimberly Lofgren*





# Nifty Thrifty

By Ariel Spengler

Savvy shoppers  
found great deals  
around town

**"t**he tackier the better," said junior Rachel Luginbuhl. "There never seems to be a shortage of ridiculous clothes."

In 2008, women wore Ugg boots and spandex leggings. Men wore tight jeans or plaid shorts. Almost everyone wore The North Face jackets. However, another common fashion trend of the year was clothing purchased for less than \$5. In other words, thrift stores.

Luginbuhl became familiar with the ins and outs of thrift store shopping when she helped organize a \$5 prom sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ.

"It basically meant that whatever you wore could cost no more than five dollars," explained Luginbuhl. "You were supposed to wear something that would be appropriate for a prom, such as a dress or tux. You can really be creative there."

Most attendees did just that. Luginbuhl shopped with other participants at the downtown Goodwill, and discovered some interesting prom attire.

"I loved all the dresses from the '80s, but honestly, mine was my favorite," said Luginbuhl. "The top was black velvet with puffy

sleeves and a big velvet bow in the back. The bottom half was shiny plastic polyester material. It also wasn't long enough, which made it even more awkward."

The women's Ultimate Frisbee team also had fun dressing up in thrift store clothing. Junior Jacqueline Wagner, a member on the team, enjoyed playing in tournaments while dressed in ridiculous and cheap costumes.

"We dress up in outfits we like to call 'flair,'" explained Wagner. "Players are known to find onesies. One player likes to wear a purple one-piece outfit that she got at Goodwill. We frequently find spandex from the children's section that have flowers and other prints on them."

The team has only two requirements according to Wagner: items with sparkles and wild prints. "It's almost always a success," she said.

Senior Brenna Rutledge threw a theme party in her off-campus apartment, an event that also encouraged students to shop around in the local thrift stores for inexpensive clothing to fit the theme.



**SILKY** ties prove to be a draw for senior Lee Jamison and junior Chris Perez. Students shopped not only for costumes, but also for everyday clothing items at local thrift stores.

Photo by Julia Simcox



**ROWSING** through the colorful collection of dresses, junior Nicole Sherman shops at Plato's Closet. Plato's Closet bought and sold gently used, popular brand name attire. Photo by Rebecca Schneider

**PRACTICING** his swing, senior Lee Jamison tries out a driver in Tried and True. Thrift stores around Harrisonburg sold wares such as plates, vases and even golf clubs along with traditional clothing items. Photo by Julia Simcox



"We love going to tacky sweater parties, but it was too hot in September to be wearing sweaters," said Rutledge. "Instead, we threw a Tacky Luau party."

Dress at the Tacky Luau ranged from Hawaiian shirts to flip-flops with socks.

"I wore a purple floral muumuu," said Rutledge. "My roommate wore a one-piece bathing suit meant for old ladies."

Sophomore Mike Bock attended the party in full costume, an ensemble he threw together from thrift store items.

"I chose cutoff jean shorts for my costume because I saw Tom Cruise wearing them in that beach volleyball scene in Top Gun," said Bock. "Everyone loves Tom Cruise, right?"

Many students at the university agreed that thrift stores were a popular choice. Many even had a favorite location at which they frequently shopped.

"I would say that Goodwill on South Main Street is my favorite," said Luginbuhl. "It's very convenient."

Wagner agreed. "Goodwill is my favorite because there are two locations. They have a wide variety, and I almost always find something that I want to pick up," she said. "I know lots of people who get their Halloween costumes from materials found at Goodwill."

Rutledge and Bock highly recommended Goodwill for student parties. "There's a large selection of clothing," said Rutledge.

"They're cheap and if you look you can find lots of good stuff," added Bock. "Just make sure you wash it first."

Senior Emily Gill, however, preferred Mercy House over other

thrift stores.

"I did community service there, so I got to know it well," said Gill. "It had some good small luggage pieces that I have used for schoolbags. And they have a lot of cool mugs and dishes."

Besides Goodwill and Mercy House, the Harrisonburg area had a lot of other, smaller thrift stores to choose from. Wagner frequented Tried and True and a thrift store in downtown Harrisonburg, Grandma's Closet.

A lot of students also liked the fact that they could drop off unwanted clothing at a few of the stores. Goodwill and Salvation Army were two stores that would take old clothes that students no longer wanted. Plato's Closet paid students for brand name clothing such as Abercrombie & Fitch or Ralph Lauren, and then sold the gently used clothing in their stores for much less than the original price.

Whatever the reason, thrift stores were popular places to shop for students.

"I believe that the thrift stores serve as a big costume closet for a lot of JMU students," said Wagner.

Luginbuhl agreed. "I absolutely believe that JMU students will always use thrift stores," she said. "A large number of us do not have a lot of money. I cannot tell you how many people are paying their own way through college. We all have to wear clothes, so wherever we can get them for the best price, we will."



By Jen Beers  
& Rebecca Schneider

# Express Yourself

Students expressed themselves in a variety of artistic mediums

For some people, art may have seemed too abstract to try to consider the artist's inspiration and intended message. But for those who found enjoyment in the arts, there were many places in the Harrisonburg area where artists could showcase their creative talent to the community.

On the west side of campus, Duke Hall served as a home away from home for many art students. Housing the School of Art and Art History (SAAH), the building's high ceilings, large windows and brightly lit rooms allowed for inspiration. The building had studios for the different concentrations: ceramics, sculpting, drawing, design (interior, industrial, graphic), photography, weaving, and metals and jewelry.

Through the art curriculum, students were encouraged to find different methods of motivation for their pieces. For senior Rebecca Musser, the process came naturally.

"For me, the process begins with light, movement of the hands, the mind and the soul and then a plunge into making," said Musser. "Just make. Don't think it all through. Discover as you go. Play. Follow the light."

In a concentration such as photography, professors taught students basic techniques and skills, while encouraging each student to apply their own creativity. By learning how to properly take photographs and edit them, students crafted their ideas together from personal, imaginative and historical concepts.

"We look at work by contemporary and historical artists, but each student has to find their own unique personal vision that uses their interests and styles," said Corinne Diop, area head for the photography program. "Some people are inspired by walking around and finding scenes to photograph while others stage objects or people—even themselves in self portraits—for their images."

Allowing members from all disciplines from the university community to



**PRACTICING** on a piece of metal, junior Lindsay MacDonald works on a soldering project in ART 225: Beginning Metals and Jewelry. ART 225 consisted of three projects: an arm adornment project, a piercing project and the final ring project. Photo by Natalie Wall



**SCULPTING** one of her last projects, senior Hannah Traynham meticulously works on the final touches of her artwork. Traynham hoped to work as a high school art teacher after graduation. Photo by Natalie Woll



**TORCHING** metal during class, sophomore Matthew Roy attempts a soldering technique. Soldering is a process in which two or more metal items are joined together by melting and flowing a filler metal into the joint. Photo by Natalie Wall

work together on innovative projects, the Institute for Visual Studies (IVS) was a center for scholarly, scientific and creative inquiry into the nature and workings of images. As both a laboratory and studio, IVS enabled students to work in new, collaborative environments.

"Students are creating artwork that expands beyond one subject by utilizing interdisciplinary thought when representing or describing the visual realm," said Chelsea Beroza, public relations representative for IVS.

IVS had become a leader in the field of image technology, according to its Web site. IVS worked with the Madison Digital Image Database (MDID), a collection of digital images primarily used for the teaching and study of art and art history. The collection also included a histology collection and the university photography collection.

In the fall, IVS presented highlights from "Picture It!," a project that allowed students to submit photographs that showed their experience at the university through their own perspective.

Students could also display their creative pieces at the artWorks Gallery, located at 131 W. Grace St., across from the art studio. The artWorks Gallery included undergraduate and graduate students' artwork and was managed by students enrolled in SAAH. All students and community members were welcome to visit the gallery.

To have their pieces featured at the gallery, students needed to apply a semester in advance and had to be interviewed and approved by Assistant Director Katie Jenkins.

Musser, student director of the artWorks Gallery, and

graduate assistant Sam Hunter, created the calendar of events. Opening events were held every other Monday from 5 to 7 p.m.

In addition to the artWorks Gallery, an outflow of creativity beamed from the hallways and classrooms of Duke Hall, from the walls of the Sawhill Gallery, the Gallery at Festival, and from the display cases at Taylor Down Under.

"My role is to show the best student work in the most professional manner possible," said Diop. "I aim to give student artists a chance to experience a gallery show which can not only provide a great opportunity for many people to view their work, but also a glimpse of possible future options of professionally showing their artwork."

Although many students were not directly involved in the arts culture at the university, some were unaware that they had an inner artist that was waiting to be released, whether through traditional or innovative art forms.

"Students can let their research paper become art as they work to find the perfect words and sources," said Musser. "Cooking a good meal can be art at home as one labors to celebrate texture and taste. Music, dancing, the list could go on."

Whether through drawing, painting, sculpting, cooking or performing, the arts surrounded the community. Students may not have realized it, but they were participating in the arts each day they spent at the university.





A multitude of faiths sparked  
religious groups on campus

# Don't

**TAKING** a break from music, freshman Amilie Napier and sophomore Meredith Sizemore enjoy LPCM's Wednesday service. LPCM also offered a student-led Christian education group on Thursday evenings.  
*Photo by Leslie Cavin*



# Stop Believin'

By Beth Principi



**EYES** closed in worship, students gather together on the Commons for praise and song. Organizations could reserve space on the Commons for a variety of reasons, including promotion of their groups. Photo by Natalie Wall

**T**he first amendment of the Bill of Rights states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." James Madison introduced this amendment to the first United States Congress in 1789. Flash forward two centuries and James Madison's presence could still be felt on campus.

With a diverse student body, the university accommodated students and their needs for religion away from home. Students had a place to turn to whether they were involved with the Christian, Jewish, Islamic or Baha'i Faith, whether they were looking for understanding or tolerance, whether they needed guidance or acceptance. With more than 15 religious organizations on campus, students had the opportunity to practice their faith.

The Lutheran Presbyterian Campus Ministry (LPCM) was a Christian nonprofit organization on campus. Sophomore Meredith Sizemore, a LPCM outreach intern, said its main goal was "to be open and let students know that they will always have a Christian home open to them."

LPCM provided many opportunities throughout the year for students to get involved. They worked with Big Brothers Big Sisters and turned their home base, Haas House, into a homeless shelter for various community outreach programs. LPCM also held weekly worship services and provided student-led programs on Christian

education.

With all the Christian organizations on campus, how was LPCM different from all the others? "I like to believe that because of our smaller scale, it is more possible for LPCM to reach out to individuals on a grander scale," said Sizemore.

After every service, local churches provided members with free home-cooked meals. The meals served as an opportunity to connect with students.

Other organizations such as Bring Your Own Spirituality (BYOS) aimed to promote discussions involving all religions. Liz Ross, graduate student and president of BYOS, discussed how this interfaith group was dedicated to the discussion, understanding and tolerance of other faiths, religions, beliefs and spiritualities.

"The belief is that the more we know and understand about other faiths and religions, the more tolerant and understanding we become," said Ross. "That creates less of a possibility for hatred towards others while strengthening your faith."

BYOS was affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist religion, but students did not have to be a Unitarian Universalist to participate. "We just want to promote tolerance and understanding of other faiths and religions on the JMU campus," said Ross.





"We are one choir, with one voice, serving one God," said Ponder. "It is an organization where the gift of song is exer-

Many students on campus shared the same passion James Madison showed 200 years earlier. All groups had their own beliefs, but tolerance and understanding were not forgotten.





**IN** preparation for LPCM's Wednesday evening worship service, sophomore Katie Thisdell sets the elements on the altar. After the service, students gathered at Haas House for a home-cooked meal. *Photo by Leslie Cavin*

**STANDING** behind conga drums, senior John Parks and junior Rob Colwell play alongside other worship band members. Christian Student Union met weekly on Thursday evenings for music and fellowship in an intimate family setting. *Photo by Natalie Woll*



“  
The belief is that the more we know  
and understand about other faiths and  
religions, the more tolerant and under-  
standing we become.  
-graduate student Liz Ross

**JUNIOR** Elisa Fernandez sings solo at an IntoHymn performance. IntoHymn's fall semester concert had a "True Life: I Have An Obsession" theme. *Photo by Julia Simcox*



# FOURTH MEAL

Serving up Late Night Breakfast, UPB gave students an alternate evening

**S**tudents danced around Festival, ice-skated through the Commons, and enjoyed breakfast food throughout the year at an event organized by the University Program Board's (UPB) special events committee. The special events committee organized Late Night Breakfast and other events to provide a break for students.

Late Night Breakfast became a staple on campus for many students who enjoyed spending time with other students who wanted to have an alcohol-free good time on a Thursday night.

The event occurred once a month from 10 p.m. to midnight. Students were entertained by DJs, music, dancing and great food. Raffle tickets were often sold to students for a small price. Winners were generally given two tickets to see a movie at Grafton-Stovall Theatre or vouchers for dinner at Madison Grille. Students had to stay until nearly midnight to find out the winners for the raffle.

For months that contained a holiday or two, UPB specified a theme for the Late Night Breakfast.

In October, a Halloween theme was demonstrated through spider webs, graveyard decorations, pumpkin-shaped cookies and pumpkin painting. The DJ played popular music interspersed with Halloween-inspired tunes.

Students enjoyed an inflatable haunted house that was located on the lawn in front of the Festival Conference Center. Henna tattoos and fortunetellers were also a part of October's Late Night Breakfast.

"I liked the song choice, the pumpkin cookie decorating and the candy apples," said freshman Cybill Sison. "They spiced it up a little instead of making it the same event every month."

In December, students skated around an ice rink on the Commons in front of D-Hall. Others enjoyed a traditional breakfast inside D-Hall or participated in crafts and activities outside.

Many students felt the themed Late Night Breakfasts added to the event as a whole.

"It made it more festive and interesting," said freshman John Strang. "If they were all the same they would get boring after the first few."

Late Night Breakfast was fun alternatives to going out on Thursday nights. They provided a social environment where it was easy to meet people and to enjoy a conversation over a meal.

Students found out about Late Night Breakfast through advertisements, posters and event tables on the Commons. Students on the special events committee put time and effort into making banners that could be seen in many different buildings on campus. Posters were hung around campus and fliers were handed out on the Commons as students walked to and from class.

"My friends and I saw it on one of those table event things and we just decided to go," said Sison. "We also saw advertisements on the papers on the tables inside D-Hall." Sison attended almost every Late Night Breakfast.

Students who attended Late Night Breakfast rarely went to the event to stay only for a few minutes. The event offered so many different options for crafts, games and entertainment that it was hard for a student to choose what to do first.

"Once we got in there, we couldn't leave," said Sison. "There were so many things to do that it took forever to choose which ones were most interesting." Organizations were always looking for ways to reach out to students. Some Late Night Breakfasts were co-sponsored by other organizations, sororities or fra-



ternities. October's Late Night Breakfast was co-sponsored by the Zeta Tau Alpha (ZTA) sorority. ZTA took care of the food and service for the event.

Late Night Breakfast provided students with an atmosphere where it was easy to talk to friends and have a good time. Pumpkin painting, fortunetellers, ice-skating and other offerings made the events fun for students with a variety of interests.

"I was glad we had those because I don't think schools like Virginia Tech and George Mason University have them," said Sison. "I just think that Late Night Breakfast was pretty much amazing all around."



**LOST** in concentration, junior Leena Patel paints a henna tattoo on freshman Alex Knabe's inner arm. Henna was used in the eastern Mediterranean area for social celebrations and holidays, but many students appreciated henna for its temporary nature. *Photo by Natalie Wall*

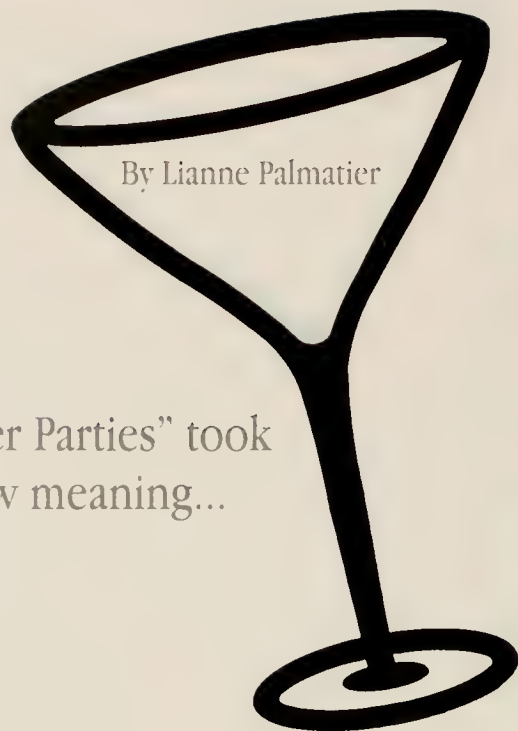


**DIGGING** in with both hands, freshmen Yvonne Cheng and Jordan Damiano dress their caramel apples in sprinkles and nuts. Zeta Tau Alpha co-sponsored the event with UPB to raise money for its philanthropy. *Photo by Natalie Wall*

**FUNNY** designs on freshman Sarah Al-Haj's pumpkin show the lighter side of Halloween. Participants were encouraged to dress up in costume for October's event, where pumpkin painting was offered for free. *Photo by Natalie Wall*







"Slumber Parties" took on a new meaning...

# SEX 'AND THE BURG

**S**eniors Fegan Hewitt and Katherine Norris hosted a slumber party at their apartment in September—but there were no sleeping bags, no pillows, no late-night movies and no one spent the night. The girls did, however, sample edible lotions and play a double-ended dildo game.

"It was kind of awkward because we were in a crowd of people we didn't know that intimately," said Hewitt. "We had to break barriers, but it was a lot of fun being outgoing and feminine."

The parties were anything but the norm. Whereas the average student might have spent the night learning a new calculus equation, these pleasure parties educated attendees on the latest and greatest of lubricants and loving one's body. A females-only event, these parties allowed women to explore the taboo subject of pleasurable sexual experiences.

Education and empowerment led graduate student Rachel Maulding to begin distributing for Slumber Parties, Inc. in February 2008. Females hosted parties in their homes, in their apartments, and even in apartment complex clubhouses to get the word out. Maulding presented products ranging from lotions to vibrators, and guests were encouraged to get comfortable by touching, tasting and smelling the products. This allowed students to understand their sexualities without fear of judgment.

At the end of the night, each woman went into a private room to discuss purchases. It remained very discreet to avoid any embarrassment. Several women, however, would share what they purchased as they waited for friends to complete the process.

"It's always a girls-only event that is a good time to bond with your girlfriends and spend time with them," said junior Megan Hopkins. "Also, I think it's great to show girls that are more shy that sex is a perfectly natural topic to talk about, and to help them become more comfortable with their sexual side."

Tupperware, candles, scrapbooks and cosmetics get-togethers were for the past as sex toy parties took a firm hold in the university culture, complete with finger foods and cocktails.

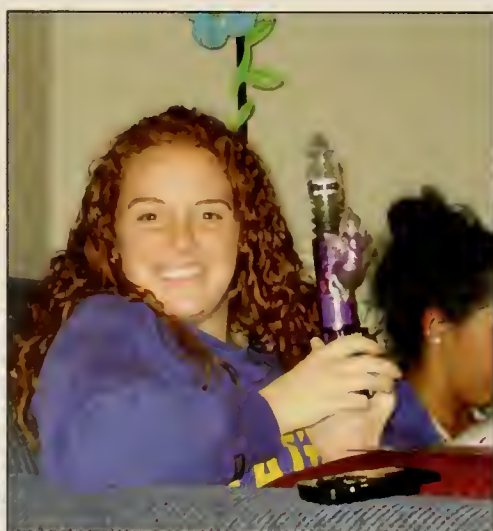
Events allowed females to explore sexuality, but also encouraged them to become distributors as well. This unusual employment opportunity benefited Maulding, who got to choose the amount of time and effort she wanted to devote to it, and ultimately her earnings.

"My best friend graduated from JMU last December, and come January I realized I needed something to fill all my free time," said Maulding. "I went to my roommate's slumber party and heard the distributor say that no one from her company was local to Harrisonburg and that JMU was a gold mine waiting to be tapped into." She saw a good business investment and signed up that night. "My first month I sold over \$10,000 to JMU alone and haven't looked back since," said Maulding. "A lot of girls attend for the fun and silly atmosphere but leave the party much more educated on the subject of sexuality."

Going with a group of friends made the process of getting to know one another and themselves more comfortable.

"I think any girl would attend a slumber party if she was with her friends," said junior Allie Gibbs. "They're a fun and unconventional way to hang out with your friends and try something new. Some people probably aren't so into the idea, but once you realize it's not 'bad,' just different, people tend to have a lot of fun."

Although the sexual revolution officially occurred in the 1960s, television shows like "Sex and the City" and its movie counterpart embraced sex and self-pleasure, featuring a group of four women



**EXCITED** to see the "Hummingbird," a student poses with the state-of-the-art sex toy. Slumber Parties offered specific packages with themes, like "Girls Night In." Photo courtesy of Rachel Maulding





**CURIOUS** about the "Enhance the Romance" game, students look at "glow dice." To play the game, lovers rolled the dice to decide how they would begin their evening. Photo courtesy of Rachel Maulding

who asserted their independence and confidence. Sex toys were dealt with frankly on the show, including the "Rabbit," which was prominently featured on an episode of "Sex and the City" in its first season. Sales of the vibrator increased tremendously due to its appearance on the show, so Slumber Parties, Inc., offered the toy in its catalog. Friends could then grill one another over who was the Samantha and who was the Charlotte, all in a safe and comfortable environment.

"The best part about these slumber parties is it's for all girls, even girls who are waiting to have sex," said Hopkins. "I just feel like for girls to talk about sex openly, they are considered sluts or something. And that isn't how it should be. Girls have sex and want to be pleased just as much as boys do."

And so the attendees let the men wonder. A certain level of exclusivity made the parties more enjoyable. With the no-men-allowed policy in place, myths about what went on circulated. However, Maulding and other pleasure party consultants offered products for both one's self and for partners. Partners could log onto a Web site and decide beforehand what products they wanted to make their sex life more enjoyable.

"The actual shows themselves are female-only, but men play a huge role in the female's sexual development," said Maulding. "All partners should be respectful and supportive of each other. The more educated and empowered women feel on the subject, the more educated their partners can become in helping them achieve true pleasure."

Gibbs said, "I think society is getting much better about accepting the fact that women aren't going to stand on the sidelines and let the men have all the fun."



**ADMIRING** the sparkling samples, students pass around authentic Slumber Parties pieces of lingerie. Maulding offered guests 10 percent discounts if they tried on any of the samples. Photo courtesy of Rachel Maulding







# Rolling Out The Purple Carpet

By Joanna Brenner

Graduates stepped into the real world

“We are all champions,” said President Linwood H. Rose, as he greeted and congratulated nearly 700 graduate candidates at the second convocation of the 99th annual commencement. Rose’s statement reminded the winter graduates that although the Dukes’ football team had lost to the University of Montana in the semifinal playoff game the night before, a championship was only a possession; and just like the football players, all graduate candidates were champions in the success they achieved during their time at the university.

Faculty, families and friends convened at 10 a.m. on Dec. 13 in the Convocation Center to watch their students and loved ones become graduates of the university. After the graduates walked to their seats during the processional, fellow graduate Emily Beard Foster led the crowd in the national anthem.

The graduates were silent as they took their seats and Rose began his congratulatory speech. “We’ve left you with a world encumbered with many problems,” said Rose, referring to the world’s wars, oil dependence and climate change. But, he continued, these were merely “opportunities dressed up as problems.” Rose hoped that the graduates would “slay a few dragons along the way” to help to solve some of these issues.



**BOASTING** a decorated cap, a student makes herself noticeable in the crowd. Students personalized their caps so that family members and friends could find them easily among the sea of purple and gold. Photo by Natalie Wall



#### **STUDENTS**

eagerly anticipate the delivery of their diplomas. Many students celebrated graduation by going out to dinner with their families.

*Photo by Natalie Wall*

At the conclusion of his speech, Rose introduced the morning's commencement speaker, 1977 alumnus Joseph Damico. Damico was a founding partner and served as an operating principal of RoundTable Healthcare Partners. With more than 31 years of healthcare industry operating experience, Damico was also the chairman of the board of ACI Medical Devices Inc., Ascent Healthcare Solutions, Aspen Surgical Products Inc., Avalign Technologies and Vesta Inc. Damico served on the university Board of Visitors regularly.

"I thought the speaker was really good," said graduate Will Farlow. "Everything he talked about was applicable, not just a random inspirational speech. He gave us advice on how to succeed in life."

In his speech, Damico told graduates that there were three simple keys to success: balance, working well with others and good manners/common sense. To achieve balance, he said, "One should follow the six Ps: faith, family, fitness, finance, philanthropy—I can't spell—and fun. When you think about my speech, you'll think, 'he talked a lot about the F word,'" said Damico.







**SOON** to be graduates, students listen to the address by Joseph Damico, a member of the university's board of visitors. The ceremony lasted just over two hours. Photo by Natalie Wall

“  
When I was getting ready to walk I was excited because of all the buildup put on graduation. It's the ultimate goal you're working towards.  
-graduate Will Farlow

The end of Damico's speech signaled the moment that everyone had been waiting for—the conferring of degrees by Rose and the anticipated presentation of the candidates.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Douglas Brown presented candidates for doctoral dissertations, graduate theses and educational specialist projects first, and then Dean Reid Linn presented graduate school students. Following the graduate students, deans from each college at the university presented undergraduates.

“When I was getting ready to walk I was excited because of all the buildup put on graduation. It's the ultimate goal you're working towards,” said Farlow.

At the end of the presentation of the graduates, Foster once again led the crowd in the university's alma mater. Graduates threw their caps up in excitement and began the next chapter of their lives.



**AS** the Board of Visitors looks on, President Linwood H. Rose delivers his thoughts on commencement. Rose was the fifth president in the university's 100-year history. Photo by Natalie Wall

**DIPLOMA** in hand, a graduate contains her excitement. The first December commencement was held in 1985. Photo by Natalie Wall





By Amy Schlinger  
& Caitlin Harrison



# Parade of Champions

The MRD took over the Big Apple during the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

**t**he Marching Royal Dukes (MRD) made its second appearance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade on Nov. 27, 2008. Students and alumni came from all over the country to support the MRD.

The marching band, color guard and the Dukettes woke at 2 a.m., on the day of the parade to begin preparing to be in Herald Square by 3 a.m., for dress rehearsal. By 7 a.m., the streets had begun to fill with excited families and supporters. Children sat on their parents' shoulders, and some brought ladders to stand on for a better view.

"It was amazing to see all of the JMU and MRD posters and supporters along the parade route," said sophomore Natalie Irvin, a member of the color guard. "I didn't realize until afterwards that we performed each of the two songs about 20 times; I just knew my arms



**ROUNDING** a corner, the MRD drumline keeps the beat going as the band performs Carmina Burana's "New World Symphony" at the start of the parade. The MRD performed two songs during the parade, and then "Sing Sing Sing" when they hit Times Square and they appeared on camera for a total of 75 seconds.  
Photo by Timmy Austen





**FLAGS** in the air, the color guard leads the band through the three-hour parade. Earlier that morning, the MRD had a run-through of the parade at 3 a.m., leaving little time for sleep.

Photo by Timmy Austen

hurt and that I was really tired, so it was spectacular to have so many people cheering us on and wishing us well while we marched through New York City."

During the performance, the band played "76 Trombones," a piece from the musical *The Music Man*, and "1941," by John Williams.

Senior Amy Drewes was one of the students who made the trip into the city to see the parade. Drewes, who lived in New Jersey, took the ferry to New York and walked to the parade location. She thought it would be a great year to go see the parade because members of the MRD were performing.

"I had made a sign for the Dukes the night before the parade and as they were coming down the road I held it up so they could see they had fans there too," said Drewes. "I even had my picture taken and published by a Macy's photographer."

A great deal of preparation went into the parade's application process, beginning two years before the parade. The MRD was required to fill out an application and submit photos, videos and letters of recommendation to the Macy's selection committee. But the MRD did have one thing in its favor.

"The MRD had performed in the 2001 parade, and the Macy's committee likes to have bands return," said Band Director Scott Rikkers. "We were selected as the largest band in the parade among over 200 other applications."

The MRD was the biggest group to perform at the parade, which made it difficult to prepare and perform in Herald Square, a small area for such a large number. "We didn't truly know what we were dealing with until the dress rehearsal the morning before the parade," said senior Vicki Stratton, a member of the color guard.

Rikkers agreed that the size constraints of Herald Square made it hard to prepare. "Getting ready for the Herald Square perfor-

mance was most challenging—we had to figure out a way to fit 475 band members in the space that most 200-member bands would fill... and still be able to move around a bit," said Rikkers. "But, we were able to mark out the Herald Square dimensions on Hillside Field, which helped us better prepare for that routine."

The MRD began practicing in October in order to record its songs and videos to submit to the Macy's committee.

"We prepared by having extra practices, including some two-a-day practices where we had morning practice from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., and then evening practices with the band from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.," said junior Lauren Hensel, a member of the Dukettes.

The extra practices paid off, however, as the Dukes marched through Times Square. After the conclusion of the parade, the entire group had to pose for a required picture. Again, size became a problem.

"We almost couldn't fit because we were so big," said sophomore saxophone-player Kevin Sennett. "It took 30 minutes to get all of the pictures done."

The large group required 140 hotel rooms and 11 charter buses, which became a burden when driving through the busy streets of New York City. Despite how expensive the experience was, MRD members did not have to spend their own money. The university and MRD alumni donated enough money to cover transportation costs, hotel accommodations, food and other expenses.

"My favorite part of the experience was representing not only the MRD, but the JMU nation to the rest of our country," said Gio Vick, a sophomore who played the mellophone in the band. "Being in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade really put James Madison in the limelight, and really exposed the hard-working nature of this university."



By Casey Smith & Steph Synoracki

# Love is in

**FLOWERS** pinned to shirts, members of UPB check in participants during the speed dating event, which occurred a few days before Valentine's Day. The event gave students an opportunity to meet new people and find a date before the big day. *Photo courtesy of UPB*



**DRIZZLED** chocolate rests atop a chocolate heart accompanied by two savory strawberries, a special dessert available during Madison Grill's Valentine's Day dinner. Students and staff who chose to take their significant others to Madison Grill for dinner had the option of this dessert along with many new items on the menu. *Photo courtesy of Dining Services*





# The Air

Students, both single and in relationships, enjoyed what Valentine's Day had to offer

While many viewed Valentine's Day as a ploy for card and flower companies to make money, others saw the holiday as a designated time to spend with the ones they cared about most.

All around campus, Feb. 14 was celebrated in a number of different ways. Many campus organizations hosted events during the week leading up to Valentine's Day in which students and faculty could participate. Whether a student had a valentine or not, there was something for everyone.

Groups on campus sold flowers and candy in abundance. Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) set up a table on the Commons where students could stop by during the week and order roses for that special someone. Roses were offered in either singles or dozens, with delivery available. TKE also took orders through phone and Facebook, and set up tables outside the Wal-Mart shopping center.

"We hope that we were able to make some students' Valentine's Day a little more memorable," said junior Brandon Birckhead.

Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) provided students with the option of sending a "Valentine Gram" to their peers. The gram consisted of flowers, a balloon, candy and a personal message. All the students had to do was give their names, the names of the intended recipient and the message they wished their recipients to read.

"We began selling the Valentine Grams the third week in January, just to be sure to get the interest of people and allow [students] to gather their funds, if necessary," said senior Tiffany Graves.

AKA publicized the event through mass e-mails, chalk advertisements on the Commons, posts on Facebook, flyers and information provided on the AKA Web site.

"We sold over 100 Valentine Grams this year, and we think that was very successful since we are considered a small sorority in comparison to the other social sororities on campus," said Graves.

Valentine's Day was not only about flowers and candy, however, as many decided to forgo the material gifts and simply spend quality time together.

"I made a rack of lamb using the first recipe that came up on Google," said junior Nima Maher. "I screwed up the recipe a tiny bit and the fire alarm went off. I improvised the cooking times to make up for my blunder and the lamb tasted great."

From past experiences, many students knew to avoid busy restaurants with long waits. Cooking at home created a more intimate atmosphere and a more cost-effective evening.

If preparing a meal together was not romantic enough, students could take their dates to Madison Grill's "Sweetheart of A Deal" dinner. Sous Chef Chris Sions prepared this Valentine's Day special, which included bruschetta or crab-stuffed baby portabellas for starters and was followed by a cobb salad. The main course consisted of either steak medallions and shrimp or grilled chicken and roasted vegetables.

Reservations were highly recommended as the restaurant quickly filled up with hungry visitors. Madison Grill made 170 dinners during the course of the evening, and roughly a quarter of the guests chose to take part in the Valentine's special.

*Casablanca*, noted as one of the most romantic movies of all time, was shown on Valentine's Day at Grafton-Stovall Theatre. Students paid the regular price of \$2.50 per person for the showing. About 40 students attended, mostly as couples.

A number of students and faculty enjoyed a "Sweetheart Serenade" by the Mozaic dance team on their Valentine's Day. Four or five team members arrived at each sweetheart's abode and entertained him or her with a song and dance.

"Mozaic sponsored it last year with great success so we decided to do it this year," said junior Karlyn Williams. "It made money, it was fun and it was a great way for the team to bond."

Single students were able to enjoy Feb. 14 too, as there were plenty of other activities. The University Program Board (UPB) sponsored a "Speed Dating" event. This "dress-to-impress" event was held in the Festival Ballroom the Wednesday before Valentine's Day.

Speed dating officially began when students were presented with a "date card" listing 10 males or females they would have the chance to "date" throughout the evening. Participants rotated through the students on their cards, conversing with each for four minutes. In case students needed help getting the conversation rolling, conversation starters were provided at each table.

"It was kind of weird at first," said sophomore Katie Thisdell. "I mean, how much can you really get to know a person in only four minutes? So it seemed like a lot of my conversations were similar, talking about the basics in our lives."

After each "date," students checked off one or two of the three options on their cards: "date worthy," "friend material" or "not interested." If both participants checked the same option, UPB sent their date's name, e-mail address and phone number.

"I figured it wouldn't hurt to go to the event, because you never know what could happen," said Thisdell. "I could have met a ton of weird guys, or some nice ones, or maybe even *the* one. Who knows!"

Last but not least, one of the most anticipated Valentine's events on campus was Alpha Phi's "King of Hearts Male Auction." In its third year running, Alpha Phi's event brought together talented male students and a large audience of females in the mood for entertainment.

"Three guys, Andy Adams, Dan McBride and Michael Daley, did an interpretive skit of the movie *Titanic* to 'My Heart Will Go On' by Celine Dion," said Stephanie Tan, Alpha Phi's president. "One was the captain of the boat, one guy was Jack, and another guy wore a wig and dressed up as Rose. It was a hilarious skit that everyone laughed [at] and enjoyed."

The bidding for the talented gentlemen started at \$10 and stopped when the bid could no longer be beat. Junior John Rich received the highest bid at \$110. Alpha Phi raised a total of \$1,400, which was donated to the Alpha Phi Foundation. The foundation supported cardiac care through the American Heart Association.

Whether students were in a budding relationship or enjoying the single life, all were able to take advantage of the events available on campus throughout the week of Valentine's Day.





Students explored Harrisonburg hotspots, craving late-night fun

# Thursday Night Lineup

By Lianne Palmatier

As Thursday approached, many students sought an opportunity to celebrate the end of the week. With a slew of restaurants opening their doors to Thursday-night crowds, students were guaranteed a variety of options.

Better known among students as Highlawn, Rocktown Bar and Grill was the premier nightspot for years, despite changes of ownership. But after misrepresentation of alcohol sales, the bar was forced to shut down and owner Issac Coe was charged with tax fraud. Students sought a new Thursday night location. Several new and renovated bars and restaurants sprouted, attempting to replace Rocktown as the ultimate Thursday destination.

"I used to go to Rocktown before it closed," said senior Katie Hyson. "It was the hot place to be on a Thursday night and it had a great dance floor."

The crowded location could practically assure that students would run into their acquaintances on the dance floor. The bar catered to students who hoped to push the week's stresses to the back burner.

"I like my Thursday night outings to include good friends, good

music to dance to, and a variety of drink options," said Hyson.

Harrisonburg restaurants were happy to oblige. Unfortunately, being new on a Thursday night was a mixed blessing. Jimdel's, located at 1594 S. Main St., saw the influx of students and struggled to meet the demands.

"I went to Jimdel's one Thursday after it recently opened," said senior Shannon Abbott. "I had fun and the music was pretty good, but the location ran out of beer and I think they were selling six packs instead of pitchers. I think that once they meet the demands of students, the bar might survive."

Surviving in a town with a student body eager for the latest fun required bars to maintain and increase their Thursday night attendance. Pano's Restaurant, located at 3190 S. Main St., chose to reopen its underground country-western bar, Chisolm's, with a new look and attitude. The result was the Basement Lounge, with DJ Mark Maskell spinning "Classic Thursdays." Chisolm's was closed for three years prior to the renovations, but owners hoped to draw a new crowd thirsty for a new Thursday hotspot.

"I decided to host a party at the Basement Lounge after evaluating all the other places in town," said Maskell, a 2008 graduate of the university. "I selected the Basement Lounge over all the other places because of its size, character, location, style, liquor license, staff and overall appeal. The renovations are really nice, the bar is beautiful, the decor is simple yet stylish and atmosphere is unique, warm and inviting."

Making sure the location was inviting proved important because the bar was located farther from many students' residences. Still, the club's atmosphere drew a large crowd.

"The Basement Lounge is definitely a unique venue with its own feel and vibe," said Maskell. "Even though it's one big room, it still has a warm feel to it because it's hidden in the basement. It's like a secret underground party. Every time I come in, I feel like I'm part of the underground rave scene in the early '90s because it's this really awesome club hidden under a family restaurant—the last place anyone would ever expect to find a wicked nightclub."

The Artful Dodger relied on its atmosphere as well, offering their Thursday nights with a little



**TAKING** it to the dance floor, a student lets loose on a Thursday night at Bourbon Street during the first anniversary of its opening. The event had a semiformal Mardi Gras theme and was full of loud music, intense lights, food and drinks. Photo by Natalie Wall

dose of culture. Salsa classes, followed by salsa music, provided students with an escape from tests and homework.

Restaurants also offered select happy hour deals. Students could be found relaxing with friends at the local Chili's or at El Charro for lower-priced margaritas. Dave's Downtown Taverna and Clementine Café, located downtown, were also popular options for late-night crowds.

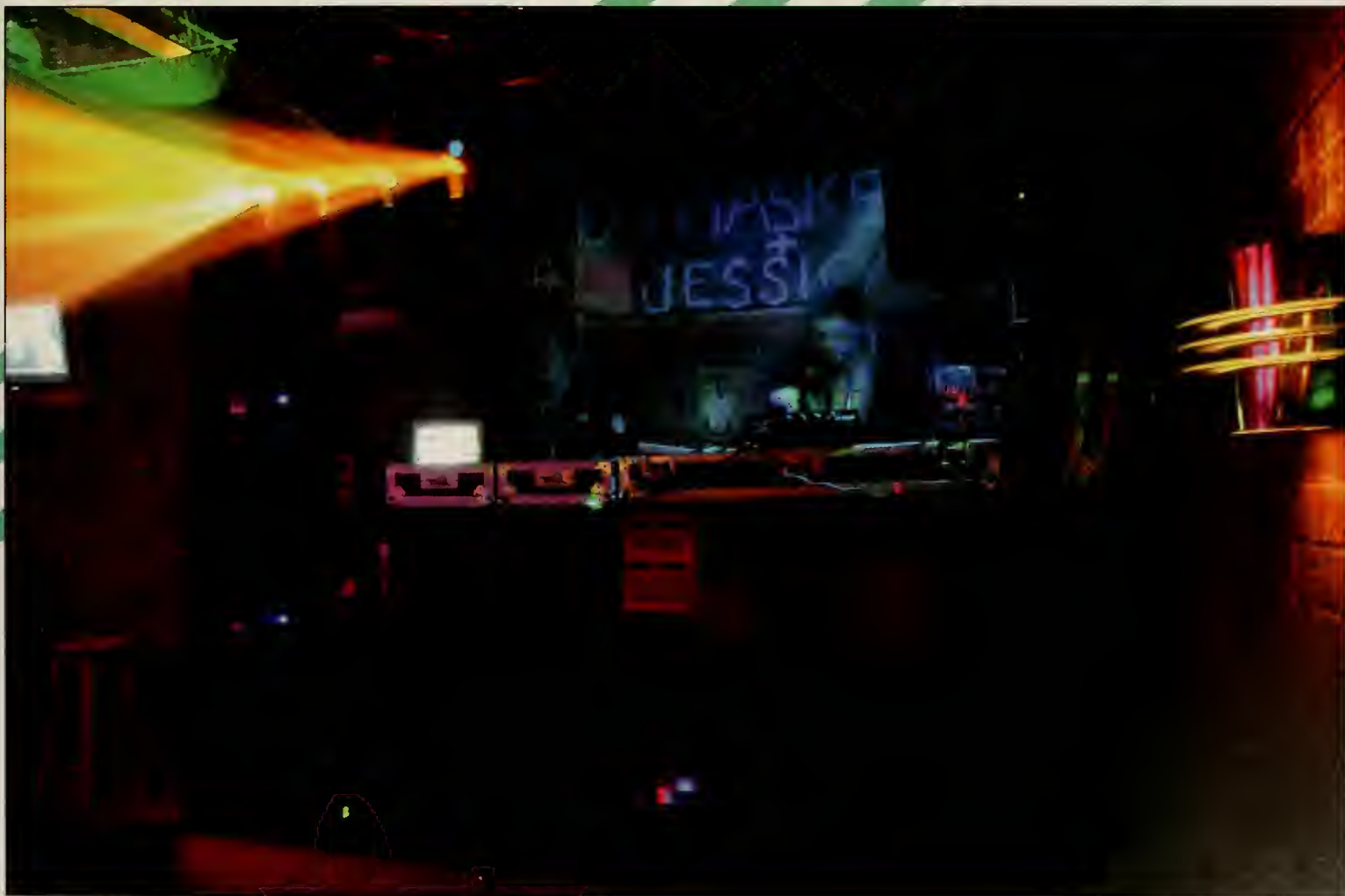
"I like going to Dave's because it's a more relaxing atmosphere," said junior Drew Lyons. "I can sit upstairs and get good food while hanging out with great friends. I like that it's not wall-to-wall people, so I can hear the person next to me."

To compete with the other area's options, Clementine hosted a senior night, sponsored by the Student Government Association.

The event invited seniors to come to Clementine Café for free finger foods, and to play the collaborative video game, Rock Band, so everyone could feel like a rockstar.

Still, live music and ladies' nights dominated Thursday nights. Music was a central ingredient that encouraged attendance. So whether students chose The Pub, Bourbon Street or the Basement Lounge, they were sure to be entertained. With Rocktown's closing, it was anyone's guess what the newest hotspot would prove to be, but there were definite possibilities at each restaurant.

**MUSIC** pumps as DJ Maskell spins his records on stage at Bourbon Street. The restaurant transformed into a nightclub by 9 p.m., and continued until 2 a.m.  
*Photo by Natalie Wall*

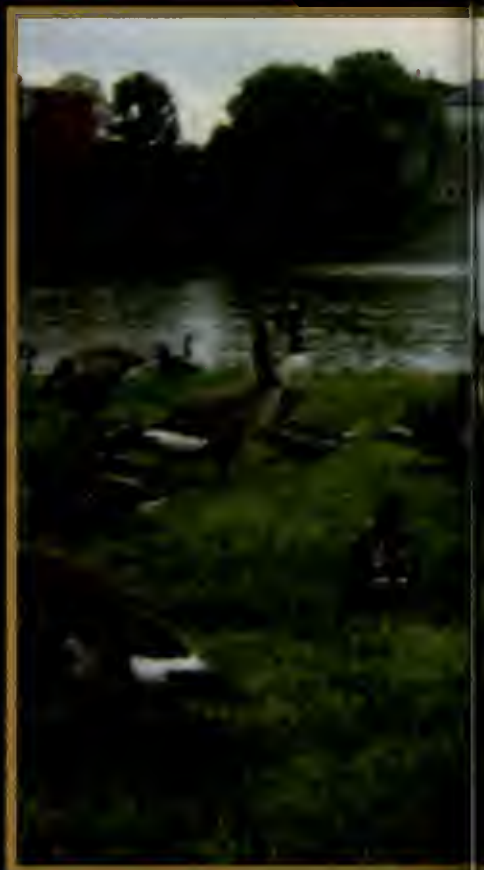
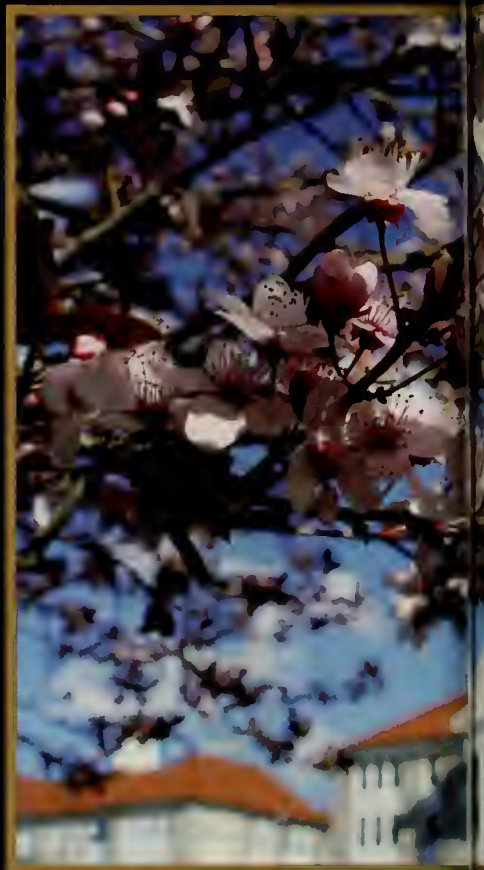




# Through Your

## Wilson Hall through Cherry Blossoms

By Nicole Santarsiero



## A Fresh Perspective

By Katie Bowles

## Geese and Fountain

By David Craven



# Lens



## Team Spirit from JMU Peers

By Dara Silbert



## Snow Day Paradise

By Lauren DeMoss





## Spring Relaxation By Paul McDowell



## Duke Dog By Nick Collier



# Through

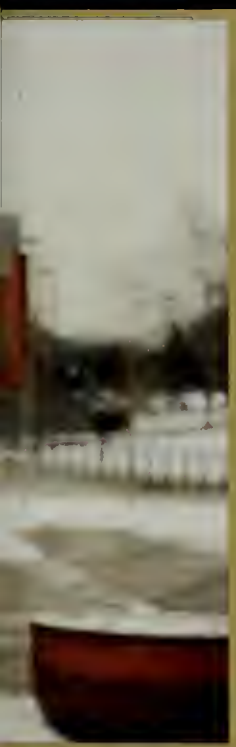




## Newman at Night

By Yerzhan Khilassov

ISAT By Sean Combs



# Your Lens

Through Your Lens 167







# Classes

RESEARCH  
CONSULTING



Photo by Natalie Wall

Photo by Natalie Wall



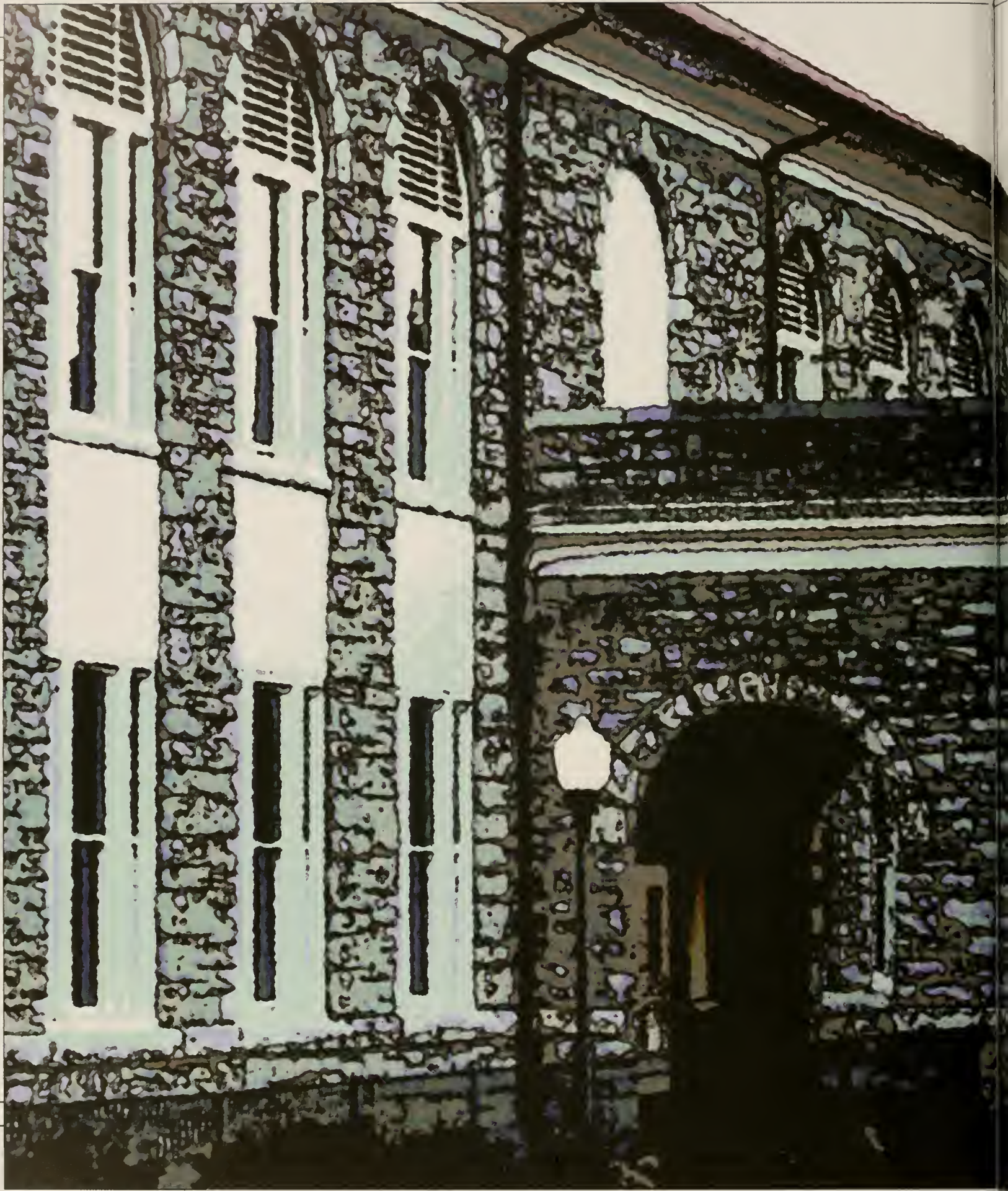
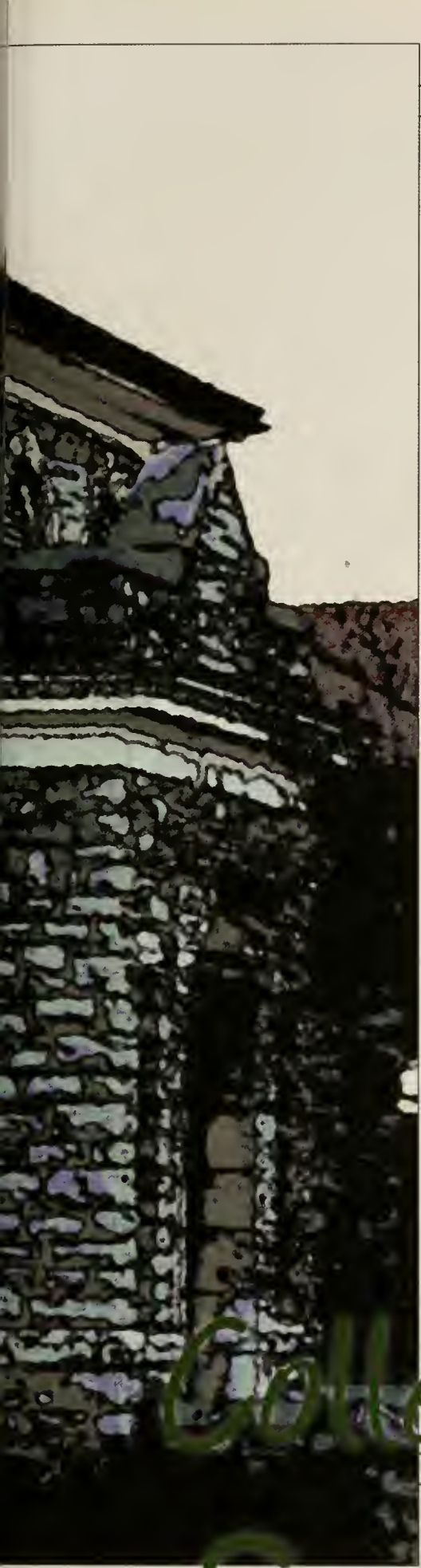


Photo by Natalie Wall





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# College of Arts & Letters





# College on the Quad

By Leslie Cavin

Coined "The College on the Quad" according to its Web site, the College of Arts and Letters (CAAL) was made up of three distinct schools: the School of Liberal Arts, the School of International and Public Affairs and the School of Communication, Information and Media.

The schools within the college were formerly different divisions. The restructuring process began three years ago when faculty workgroups suggested dividing the college into three separate entities, according to David Jeffrey, dean of CAAL.

"We anticipate that when the economy improves, the three units, now schools, will become colleges with their own deans and governance structures," said Jeffrey.

Regardless of what school students were in, each program was committed to helping students achieve common objectives. These included improving foundational skills that were fostered by general education courses such as writing, critical thinking, information access through technology and foreign language.

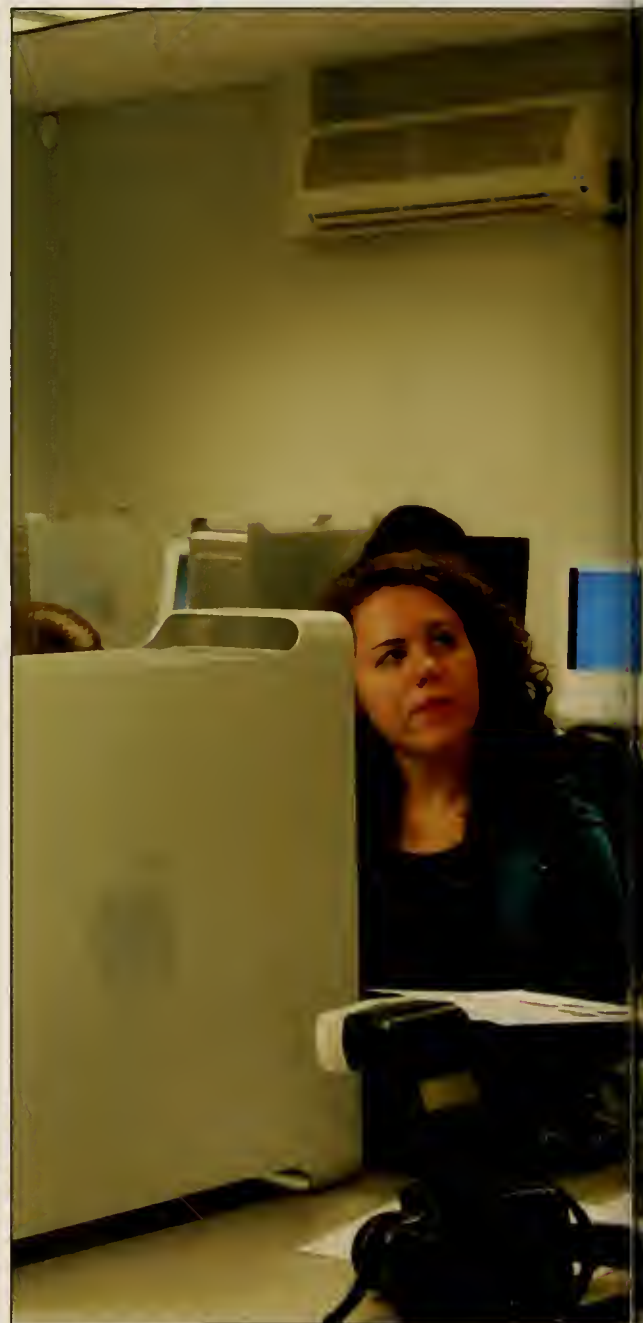
Another goal of CAAL was to develop the ability to communicate ideas effectively through writing-intensive courses.

The final goal of CAAL was to enrich cultural perspectives essential to effective citizenship in the 21st century. These included global awareness and appreciation of American cultural diversity.

Within CAAL, resource and service centers were instituted to advance students. The Center for Liberal and Applied Social Sciences (CLASS) was a newly created academic unit within CAAL that was created to support and enhance creative curricular and scholarly development in the social sciences and humanities. CLASS also provided an environment that encouraged and sustained faculty innovation in interdisciplinary education.

The Center for Public Broadcasting also supported the goals set forth by the college and allowed the university to serve the public radio listeners in the Shenandoah Valley and Charlottesville area. There were four noncommercial public radio stations that all carried the same programming and were licensed to the university's Board of Visitors.

The overall mission of CAAL was to serve multiple vital needs of students. It offered high quality programs of specialized study in the social sciences, humanities, communication and the arts. CAAL provided a challenging array of courses designed to promote lifelong learning and rich cultural opportunities for students and the entire university community. *Information compiled from [jmu.edu/catalog/08](http://jmu.edu/catalog/08)*



## Dean's Office

David Jeffrey, Dean

Carolyn Ware, Administrative Assistant

Laura Wiseman, Secretary

Joseph Fitzgerald, Computing Liaison

## Departments

Communication Studies

English

Foreign Languages, Literatures & Cultures

History

International Affairs

Justice Studies

Media Arts & Design

Philosophy & Religion

Political Science

Public Policy & Administration

Sociology & Anthropology

Writing, Rhetoric & Technical Communication

## CAAL by the Numbers

Most Popular Majors:

Media Arts & Design (717)

Communication Studies (593)

English (429)

Full-Time Undergraduates: 3,631

Part-Time Undergraduates: 79



**SENIOR** Eileen Graham looks on as photojournalism instructor Tommy Thompson explains different types of flashes. The class required participation and a professional portfolio as the final project. Photo by Megan Mori





# Double Duty

By Karlyn Williams

Always a reader, Inman Majors noticed in high school that most of the fiction he read was set in New York, Boston or Paris. The novel, "Death in the Family," by James Agee, was a "revelation" for the fiction-writing professor.

Set in Knoxville, Tenn., Majors' hometown, the novel made it easy for him to relate the setting as well as the author's insight. When he read the words of Agee, he knew he wanted to be a writer. However, he did not tell anyone because he was unsure how to capture his dream. He took one fiction writing class in college, but it was not until he turned 26 that he decided to go to graduate school to pursue the art of writing.

Majors worked dually as a professor in the creative writing department and a published author of three novels. His most recent novel, "The Millionaires," was published in January 2009. Majors traveled to promote the political novel, a stark contrast from his previous two novels, dramatic and comedic pieces respectively.

"I never want to write the same book twice," said Majors.

He made it a habit to write two to four pages a day in the mornings, when his mind was less cluttered.

"I'm more natural in the morning," said Majors.

His position at the university was the first job that afforded him time to write during the school year. He wrote at the computer for about two hours a day, compiling about 20 pages a week. "The Millionaires" was a four-year process, including writing, editing and publishing.

He tried a more serious approach for his first novel, but it took three years to get published. Knowing he had to continue writing, the idea of another serious novel was "too depressing." He tried comedy and said even if it did not get published, he could make himself laugh for a couple years while he wrote it.

The comedy genre suited him well because it encapsulated his laid-back attitude and sense of humor that was apparent not only through his writing, but also in the classroom setting.

The average class period was a discussion-based workshop led by the students. The class arranged their desks in a circle, including Majors, to ease the communication when critiquing one another's work. Four pieces of fiction were typically reviewed

in a class period.

"The critiques aren't hard to take, but he won't let anyone be disrespectful," said senior Sarah Delia. "He'll counter a negative comment with a positive one."

The teaching style Majors used was unlike that of most professors. Insisting he was not the only person with valid opinions and suggestions to offer, he wanted the students to learn from one another's successes and struggles by recommending their own comments to their peers rather than relying solely on his commentary.

"He offers more guidance than instruction," said senior Kristina ErkenBrack. "He told us there is not one way to write, and to better your writing you have to do a lot of bad writing before you do good writing."

Senior Kenny Lass described Majors' teaching style as selfless and refreshing, finding his subtle writing tips the most interesting part of class.

"Every now and then Majors will slip in some of his thoughts about writing," said Lass. "Sometimes I think if you aren't listening closely enough you might miss them. But this isn't because he doesn't want us to get better. He just doesn't want us to be forced to believe what he believes about writing."



**LISTENING** to his students' suggestions, Professor Inman Majors fields comments during a class workshop. Many students found his creative writing classes popular due to the usefulness of his detailed critiques. Photo by Natalie Wall



Matthew Alcide; History; New Hyde Park, N.Y.



Alex Allenchey; Philosophy And Religion; Arlington, Va.



John Almquist; History; Falls Church, Va.



Travis Altomonte; Anthropology; Staten Island, N.Y.



Steven Anzuini; TSC; Highstown, N.J.



Brittany Astrup; International Affairs; Hackettstown, N.J.



Ashley Bertoni; Political Science; Centreville, Va.



Thomas Bluestein; History; Virginia Beach, Va.



Nicole Bradshaw; English; Franklin, Va.



Kathleen Brennan; Communication Studies; Nashua, N.H.



Joanna Brenner; SMAD; Middletown, Md.



Nicole Brigagliano; SMAD; Malverne, N.Y.



Tanique Carter; Sociology; Glen Allen, Va.



Lauren Catalano; Anthropology; Washington, N.J.



Leslie Cavin; SMAD; Roanoke, Va.



Ross Chilcoat; Communication Studies; Elicott City, Md.



Lindsey Cooper; SMAD; Staunton, Va.



Courtney Cornwell; International Affairs; Virginia Beach, Va.



Heather Cote; Communication Studies; Richmond, Va.

Christopher Craig; History; Manasquan, N.J.

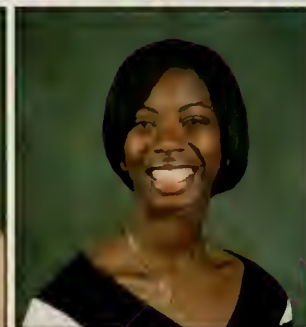
Kathryn Daughtry; Political Science; Richmond, Va.



Caitlin Davis; Studio Art; Downingtown, Pa.

Sarah Delia; English; Herndon, Va.

Courtney Dixon; Communication Studies; Montgomery, N.Y.



Courtney Doby; Communication Studies; Fredericksburg, Va.

William Driggers; International Affairs; Fairfax, Va.

Samantha Elchenko; SMAD; New Hope, Pa.



Paula Ferguson; Communication Studies; Troutville, Va.

Erin Finch; English; Midlothian, Va.

John Fitzmaurice; History; Nutley, N.J.



Jennifer Frey; SMAD; Perry Hall, Md.

Jeffrey Genota; Political Science; Falls Church, Va.

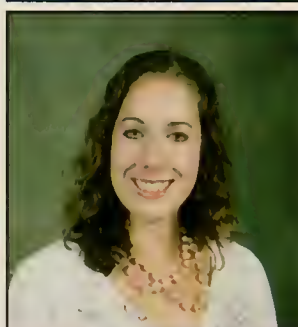
Ryan Girard; Political Science; Centreville, Va.



Lindsey Golden; Justice Studies; Oak Hill, Va.

Christopher Gray; History; Chesapeake, Va.

Christina Guglielmo; TSC; Allendale, N.J.





# Visual Impact

By Katie Thisdell

Walking into the Institute of Visual Studies (IVS) in Roop Hall, students found a large, open area instead of a traditional classroom. There was a comfortable sitting area with chairs and couches, an office, high-tech equipment and tables that were easily moved. Several times each semester the space was filled with exhibits that showcased students' work or complemented current courses.

IVS created multidisciplinary courses for students that explored the power of images. Director David Ehrenpreis developed the institute with faculty members from different departments.

"I noticed people all around campus were using images more and more," said Ehrenpreis. "Everyone looks at images differently, and we wanted to capture that enthusiasm of looking at them in a multidisciplinary way."

The IVS offered two courses each semester, limiting class size to about 16 students. Each class was discussion-based and team-taught by two professors from different departments.

In normal university courses, Ehrenpreis said students typically did not have the chance to create new things based on what they were learning. He wanted them to explore new concepts and take risks with their ideas.

"They are somewhat experimental classes," explained Ehrenpreis. "The hope was to do something that you don't normally get to do."

Junior Oksana Naumenko liked how her "Studio Seminar in Aesthetics" course was structured. The combination of psychology, philosophy and art challenged her, especially with the complicated readings.

"It was interesting to hear different perspectives of students in different disciplines," said Naumenko. "It was really interesting to hear things that were so different from my own ideas."

Students created projects throughout each course to reflect its topics. Each semester culminated in an exhibition. For example, Naumenko hoped her project evoked the feelings of awe and chills. She and other members of her small group covered a ceiling with photos and images of treetops and sky so viewers would have the effect of lying on the ground in a forest.

Other IVS courses included Image and Text: The Art of Persuasion, and Math and Art: Beautiful Rigor.

Senior Grace Barth took the image and text course, which Ehrenpreis co-taught with English professor Kurt Schick. Barth also interned with IVS in 2008.

"We analyzed persuasive elements in visual media as well as the art of rhetoric in writing," said Barth. "The class had a much less traditional structure than all other classes I have taken. Since IVS is an experimental space, we were free to bring things to class that we thought were relevant or explore things that interested us, and I really liked the freedom and flexibility of that."



**A VISUAL** studies assignment captivates students as they put their final touches on their project. The students had the opportunity to use an 3-D printer that made plastic models using computer files. Photo courtesy of Institute for Visual Studies

Many of the final projects for the exhibit were related to different types of campaigns. "It looked great and brought together faculty, staff, friends and other members of the JMU community who came to see what we had accomplished," said Barth.

Ehrenpreis said all the students taking IVS courses were highly motivated and excited to be learning in new ways.

"You bend your mind in ways they're not normally bent," he said, "and that's the whole point."



**COMBINING** the disciplines of art and math, students in IVS create works of visual impact. Students were required to keep journals to reflect on their images and ideas. Photo courtesy of Institute for Visual Studies





By Caitlin Harrison

# A Passion for People



For more than a decade, Jennifer Coffman worked in the Kajiado District in Kenya, researching wildlife conservation and wildlife resource management. Coffman regularly led study abroad trips to Kenya and traveled there with students during the summers of 2003, 2005 and 2007. Between May and June, students from the university could earn six credits studying a wide range of topics from anthropology to the environment.

"I think everyone who takes her class realizes what a great person she is, but being able to go to Kenya with her was an honor," said senior Colleen Mahoney. "Thanks to her, I learned so much on my trip and had a life-changing experience."

Traveling and studying in Kenya helped senior Justin Broughman decide how he wanted to spend his working life.

"Over the past six or so years, Dr. Coffman has created one of the most unique study abroad programs at JMU," said Broughman. "It is easily the greatest thing that I have ever done in my life, hence why I'm dedicating my adult life to Africa."

An Africana studies minor, Broughman planned to return to Kenya on an internship with Coffman after graduation.

Coffman was an anthropology professor at the university, but also taught Africana studies, environmental studies and interdisciplinary liberal studies courses. She took the time to learn each student's name, giving the class a personal feel.

"What makes Dr. Coffman special is that she has an undying passion for the material on which she teaches," said Broughman. "Because of her passion for the subject matter and all-

around friendly demeanor, the class, in turn, becomes enjoyable."

Coffman also created and oversaw the university's Farm Internship program, an internship where students worked with local farmers while learning agricultural techniques.

"Although they ate daily, they had little knowledge about the origins or production processes of what they consumed," said Coffman.

Students received credits for participating in a variety of farming practices, including small-scale farming techniques, renewable energy and local ecology.

"Dr. Coffman is an absolute wealth of information, and is clearly passionate about what she teaches," said senior Sarah Midkiff. "She pushes students to make real connections and contextualizes everything that is being discussed. You learn an incredible amount in each lecture, and it's difficult not to get excited about what you're learning."

Outside the university, Coffman was on the board for a program called Carolina for Kibera (CFK) that provided athletic programs to youths living in Kibera, East Africa's largest slum. The program was affiliated with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and helped to stop violence through developments within the community. CFK promoted youth leadership and cooperation between different ethnicities and genders.

"She is the most intelligent person I have ever met and she is incredibly interesting to listen to," said Mahoney.

Broughman agreed. "Upon graduation, I aspire to be like Dr. Coffman," he said. "She has dedicated her life and professional career to a handful of issues and topics and is the most devoted person to her research that I have ever had the privilege of meeting."

**MORE** than two million flamingos make up the background as students studying abroad in Kenya walk over the birds' feathers, bones and dung. The students headed back to the vehicles and continued to explore Nakuru National Park. Photo courtesy of Sarah Midkiff



**POSED** for a photo in the Kajiado District in Kenya, Jennifer Coffman and friends enjoy some leisure time. The men helped students learn about the different cultures and landscapes in Kenya. Photo courtesy of Jennifer Coffman





Lauren Hafer; Justice Studies; Elverson, Pa.



Sara Hagan; Communication Studies; Centerville Va.



Emily Haines; International Affairs; McLean, Va.



Ariana Harner; Political Science; Staunton, Va.



Bridget Henig; Communication Studies; Rockville, Md.



Turner Hilliker; SMAD; Dumfries, Va.



Phillip Hoegel; SMAD; Ashburn, Va.



Emily Hoffman; SMAD; Mathews, Va.



Jeana Horton; SMAD; Jonesville, Va.



Brian Hurst; SMAD; Springfield, Va.



Meghan Hyatt; SMAD; Richmond, Va.



Krisztina Jankura; Political Science; Oakville, Ontario



Heather Killen; Anthropology; Gordonsville, Va.



Chiquita King; SMAD; Franklin, Va.



Justin Kirkland; English; Boynton, Va.



Jennifer Koch; Modern Foreign Languages; Floral Park, N.Y.



Michael Kump; SMAD; Smithtown, N.Y.



Laura Kurth; English; Springfield, Va.



Joseph Lagravenese; SMAD; Clinton, N.J.

Kenneth Lass; English; New Orleans, La.

David Lawrence; Philosophy And Religion; Wayne,  
N.J.



Nicole Lee; Communication Studies; Chester, Va.

Rebecca Leggett; SMAD; Roanoke, Va.

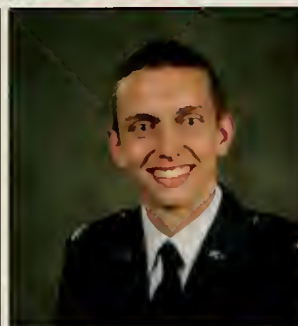
Jennifer Lloyd; Modern Foreign Languages; Lancaster, Pa.



Colleen Mahoney; SMAD; Guilford, Conn.

Russell Maynard; International Affairs; Fredericksburg, Va.

Colleen McPadden; Communication Studies; Herndon, Va.



Michael Moeck; Sociology; Stephens City, Va.

Megan Mori; SMAD; Richmond, Va.

Molly Mueller; SMAD; Midland, Va.



Adrienne O'Rourke; SMAD; Westfield, N.J.

Hilary Page; Anthropology; Franklin Co., Va.

Nicole Pallardy; Spanish; Leesburg, Va.



Quinncee Payne; Communication Studies; Bear, Del.

Macie Pridgen; Communication Studies; Virginia Beach, Va.

Crystal Prigmore; Anthropology; Alexandria, Va.





# Point.Focus.Shoot.

By Steph Synoracki

College of Arts & Letters

Freezing moments in time, School of Media Arts and Design 225: Photojournalism (SMAD 225) incorporated creative angles, artistic talent and documentation of events. An active photographer himself, SMAD instructor Tommy Thompson had taught photojournalism at the university for more than 30 years. Thompson captured the minds of students eager to learn the skills and composition needed to be a photojournalist.

Thompson referred to the class as "boot camp" due to its intense, hands-on nature. "They learn by making mistakes," said Thompson.

Students learned the basics of photography and grasped an understanding of techniques in class, but most of the class was focused on outside assignments that would prepare them for the real world. A portfolio consisting of a minimum of 20 photographs was the final assignment, accounting for 50 percent of the final grade for the course.

Thompson wanted to force students outside of their comfort zones. For example, one assignment was to photograph President Linwood H. Rose performing his official duties around campus, such as declaring Mr. and Ms. Madison at the Homecoming halftime show. Another assignment required students to photograph formal portraits of public officials, such as the police chief or mayor.

"They can't be in a cocoon bubble," said Thompson.

Students typically enjoyed the fast pace and variety of assignments.

"The class was a hands-on extravaganza," said junior Sean Youngberg. "We took pictures of events ranging from [Obama's visit to JMU] to children trick-or-treating, and everything in between."

Typically, the course was filled to capacity during registration, meaning only 17 students had the chance to experience the cov-

eted class per semester.

"I only got in because I stalked the class on e-campus all summer long to watch for someone to drop it, and it paid off," said junior Jessica Dodds.

SMAD 225 was the only photojournalism course offered at the university, something Thompson took pride in. Students completed anywhere from 12 to 15 assignments during the semester in addition to the final portfolio. These projects helped students to develop a professional portfolio for future job opportunities.

Students needed a digital single-lens reflex (SLR) camera for the course. If they did not own an SLR camera, they had the opportunity to borrow one from the SMAD checkout center or rent one for the semester at Glen's Fair Price, a local camera store downtown.

Many guest speakers visited the class and talked about their photojournalism experiences to provide tips on what employers look for. Normally, three or four former students were among these guest speakers, including award-winning photojournalist Casey Templeton, a 2006 graduate. Templeton, who spoke to the class during the fall semester, had been named 2005 College Photographer of the Year, and was working as a professional wedding photographer.

Thompson received his diploma from the university when it was called Madison College. After graduation, he became the supervisor of photography for the university and held the position for 28 years.

"I've been able to achieve most of my goals," said Thompson, "even though I stayed local." Thompson was also a freelance photographer for United Press International for 15 years. In 2009, he was still an active photographer, changing his focus to work more with corporate material.

With a wealth of experience and knowledge in the photography field, Thompson was able to shed light on many principles of photojournalism.

"He really knows what he's talking about and has tons of experience," said Dodds.

The best part about teaching photojournalism to students was his pride in their work, according to Thompson. He loved to see his former students succeed and hoped he gave them a little bit of guidance.

"Thompson is the kind of professor shy people have nightmares about," said Youngberg. "He's open, outgoing and critical. But he is one of the best teachers I've had at JMU."

**CAMERAS** ready, instructor Tommy Thompson and students experiment with a variety of flash settings. Junior Sean Youngberg said, "I am not artsy and had no photo experience coming into the class, but I left with newly honed skills and a new found love of photography." Photo by Megan Mari





# Building Bridges

By Karlyn Williams

Through her teaching and volunteering experiences, Spanish professor Karina Kline-Gabel realized the Latino community in Harrisonburg was burying rather than embracing its heritage. Her goal became to help bilingual and bicultural youth discover courage and confidence in the Latino culture, something that she had taken for granted as a child of a Colombian mother and an American-born father.

A pen pal program was Kline-Gabel's first idea, which morphed into a face-to-face program known as AMISTAD, the Spanish word for friendship. Funding for the change came from a \$10,000 grant from the Office of International Programs.

The grant afforded AMISTAD the ability to set up an after-school program at Thomas Harrison Middle School (THMS). Kline-Gabel was able to provide a unique experience for the middle school students and university volunteers by bringing in speakers and having craft days with elaborate supplies to ease the initial tension between university student volunteers and THMS students. THMS had been the only school where the program was held, but there was interest at three other middle schools in the area.

"It's the happiest and saddest circumstance because though it's flattering, we don't want to develop too quickly," said Kline-Gabel.

Focusing the program around middle school students was ideal for the program, according to Kline-Gabel. She believed that they were at the best point in life to be mentored. The university students often experienced a role reversal when the middle school students taught them something about the Latino culture.

The program was not just about cultural exchange, but also friendship. AMISTAD's motto was "building bridges through friendships." AMISTAD provided outdoor games, music and trivia activities during the after-school program to connect the American and Latino cultures while developing relationships between the volunteers and students.

Junior Grace Pemberton participated in AMISTAD for the past three semesters and her favorite activity was a mock election.

The week before the election, the volunteers taught the students about the electoral system, democracy and the roll of the presidency through trivia. Following the game, all students cast their own ballots and received an "I Voted" iced cupcake.

"I think the kids enjoyed this because people were actually concerned about their opinions and included them in a process that one day awaits them," said Pemberton.

A volunteer needed to be decently fluent in Spanish when the program first began. However, due to the second and third generation bilingual middle school students who participated in the program, this was no longer a requirement.

"Today, any JMU student with any major can benefit from AMISTAD, as long as they have an interest in the Latino culture," said Kline-Gabel.

**LEARNING** about Latino culture, a student goes through worksheets with children at AMISTAD. Along with readings about Latino culture, students played games, listened to music and danced with the children. Photo courtesy of Karina Kline-Gabel



**SMILES** can be seen around the table as senior Melissa Class and children at AMISTAD discuss the differences in their cultures. AMISTAD gave the children the opportunity to speak their minds about whatever the subject was that day. Photo courtesy of Karina Kline-Gabel







Aldis Rasums; SMAD; Hackettstown, N.J.



Emily Reid; English; Franktown, Va.



Renee Revetta Media Arts And Design Export PA



Darley Richard; English; Virginia Beach, Va.



Sarah Robarge; SMAD; Harrisonburg, Va.



Michele Robel; English; Baltimore, Md.



Kelly Robinson; Justice Studies; Alexandria, Va.



Frederick Rose; Communication Studies; Virginia Beach, Va.



Steven Sacalis; Political Science; Voorhees, N.J.



Dana Shifflett; Political Science; Ruckersville, Va.



Julia Simcox; International Affairs; Chantilly, Va.



Jeffrey Skutnik, Jr; SMAD; Westport, Conn.



Casey Smith; Communication Studies; Newport News, Va.



Kiera Smith; Communication Studies; Westwood, N.J.



Morgan Sohl; Modern Foreign Languages; Eatontown, N.J.



Joanna Solch; SMAD; Ringwood, N.J.



Daniel St. John; Justice Studies; Newport News, Va.



Jaynell Stoneman; SMAD; Middletown, Del.



Kristen Strunk; Political Science; Centreville, Va.

Alyson Therres; SMAD; Hampstead, Md.

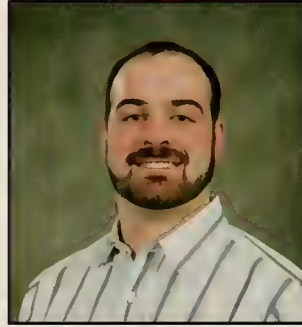
Kristi Vansickle; Anthropology; Bowie, Md.



Timothy Wacha; Sociology; West Caldwell, N.J.

Alison Ward; SMAD; Herndon, Va.

Cody Warner; Philosophy and Religion; Williamsburg, Va.



Jacqueline Weisbecker; Communication Studies; Plainsboro, N.J.

Jessica Wells; Political Science; Baskerville, Va.

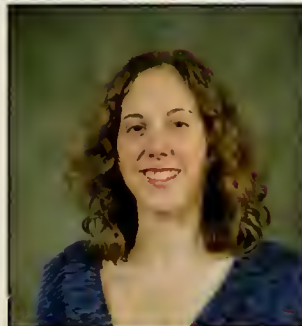
Lori Whitacre; SMAD; White Post, Va.



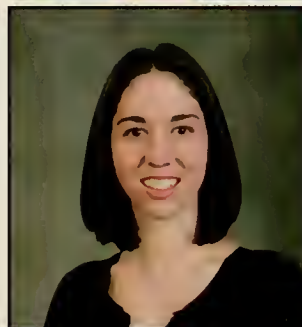
Katelyn Williams; English; Roanoke, Va.

Walter Williams; International Affairs; Powhatan, Va.

Whitney Wilson; SMAD; Tappahannock, Va.



Sarah Woodhouse; Communication Studies; Virginia Beach, Va.



# Life, Liberty, Pursuit

By Steph Synoracki

Professor Elaine Chisek, who received her Juris Doctor and Master of Laws from Tulane Law School, taught Political Science 326: Civil Rights (POSC 326) by focusing mainly on Supreme Court decisions in her discussion-based course. Students discussed topics such as the free speech and religion clauses in the First Amendment, cruel and unusual punishment in the Eighth Amendment and the Equal Protection Clause in the Fourteenth Amendment.

One of the course's objectives was to provide "an overview of the perennial issues presented to governments committed to preserving individual rights and liberties," said Chisek. Students also worked on "developing and sharpening critical thinking and argumentation skills" through analysis of specific Supreme Court rulings.

Senior Cliff Sacalis decided to take Chisek's class after discussing Court decisions in another one of her courses, Constitutional Law. "Professor Chisek is, and this is tough for me to say, the most enthusiastic teacher I've had in the political science department," said Sacalis. "You can tell she really puts her emotion into teaching and enjoys what she does."

Senior Jeff Watson also had similar feelings about the class and Chisek's manner of teaching. "Professor Chisek is an extraordinary professor... her teaching style is great," said Watson. "[We had] an open discussion and explanation of each case we studied."

Watson explained that Chisek came into teaching this course with an impressive amount of experience with law.

"Those experiences further allow her to teach this class efficiently

[and it] doesn't really feel like you're listening to another person regurgitate the information back to you," said Watson.

Students were required to read and understand difficult texts and apply class discussions to hypothetical law situations on Chisek's exams, according to Sacalis. Students also needed to think "critically and analyze current cases on the docket and present them in mock trial [format] to the class," he said.

One aspect of the course Sacalis most enjoyed was learning about what rights individuals "try to claim and vice versa, and [what rights] the government tries to deny," said Sacalis.

Through constant discussion of Supreme Court decisions and their impact on citizens of the United States, students gained an appreciation for their rights and for the challenges the Court faced in making a decision.

Students who took POSC 326 were prepared to enter any area of law due to the course load and depth of discussions.

"As a JMU student preparing for law school in fall 2009, I feel like this class really brushed up on some important skills I'll be using in law school," said Sacalis.

Both Sacalis and Watson recommended that students take Chisek's course because it dealt with individual rights, and students were bound to find more than one of the course topics interesting.

"I can't stress enough how much I got out of this course," said Sacalis. "It challenged me academically and got my mind churning on all different aspects of the government and our rights as citizens."



**MID-LECTURE,** Professor Elaine Chisek discusses Supreme Court cases during class. "The majority of class time is spent reading and analyzing the Supreme Court's landmark and recent decisions in the areas of civil liberties and individual rights," said Chisek. Photo by Julia Simcox







Photo by Natalie Wall



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Ping Wang 192

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John Rothenberger 196

HTM Experience 198

MKTG 385: Buyer Behavior 200

CPA Bootcamp 202

College of

Business



# Show Me the Money

By Colleen Mahoney

Ranked in the top 5 percent of undergraduate business schools in the nation by *BusinessWeek*, the university's College of Business (COB) contained rigorous courses and influential professors.

"All of the COB classes are challenging in their own way," said junior Jordan Liles. "But the professors are willing to go over everything and work with you."

With dark brown marble floors and round tables that were constantly filled by studying students, Zane Showker Hall was home to most COB classes.

The college's mission was to "commit to preparing students to be active and engaged citizens who are exceptionally well-qualified leaders for success in a global competitive marketplace," according to its Web site. Continually updating the program, COB tried to maintain its competitive nature with other undergraduate business programs.

To be accepted into COB, students were required to take 10 core business classes while maintaining above a 2.8 GPA. Within the college, majors chose from 10 undergraduate programs, including accounting, economics, marketing and quantitative finance.

One of the most widely known COB courses was COB 300. Through this semester-long, 12-credit class, students worked in small groups to create a professional business plan. The business plan integrated finance, marketing, operations and management.

"Everyone always says it's so challenging, and it was, but it was also the most rewarding class I've ever taken," said junior Will Toler. "It was an interesting experience. You learn to work with people you don't know."

In 2008, COB graduates who took the Uniform Certified Public Accountants Examination had the 11th highest pass rate in the nation among students without advanced degrees. The CPA exam was a licensing examination that certified accountants, helping graduates obtain better jobs after graduation.

"I think the business school is well-known because the professors are very qualified and have a ton of experience in their fields," said Toler.

"All the teachers always have such vast experience, whether in writing books, winning awards or working high up in the professional field," said Liles. "They really take what they know from their fields and help students to apply it." *Information compiled from [jmu.edu/catalog/08](http://jmu.edu/catalog/08)*



## Dean's Office

Robert Reid, Dean

Philip DuBose, Associate Dean,  
Academic Programs

Kimberly Foreman, Associate Dean,  
Human Resource & Administration

Joyce Guthrie, Associate Dean,  
Student Services

## Departments

Accounting

Computer Information Systems

Economics

Finance and Business Law

Hospitality and Tourism Management

International Business

Management

Marketing

Management Science

Quantitative Finance

## COB by the Numbers

Most Popular Majors:

Marketing (824)

Finance (735)

Management (705)

Full-Time Undergraduates: 3,831

Part-Time Undergraduates: 83



**CONCENTRATING** on their notes, students listen to a class held in Zane Showker Hall. Students often stayed in Showker between classes to catch up on homework. *Photo by Tiffany Brown*





## 190 Classes



Kurt Austin; Finance; Baltimore, Md.



Leah Babel; Accounting; Olmsted Falls, Ohio



Alexander Bailey; Management; North Reading, Mass.



Andrew Bailey; Finance; Herndon, Va.



Chonie Bailey; Finance; Waynesboro, Va.



Nathaniel Balos; International Business; Orange County, Calif.



Jasmine Banks; HTM; Southhampton, N.Y.



Stephany Barber; International Business; Riva, Md.



Brent Beissel; Finance; Mohrsville, Pa.



Rachael Beloff; HTM; Langhorne, Pa.



Zachary Blanco; Accounting; Levittown, Pa.



Brad Bloomer; Finance; Wallkill, N.Y.



Vaneli Bojkova; HTM; Herndon, Va.



James Bourne Jr; International Business; Vienna, Va.



Jerrica Browder; Accounting; Sutherland, Va.



Rachel Bruton; Marketing; Silver Spring, Md.



Mark Bushey; Marketing; Gardners, Pa.



Nicholas Campo; Finance; Bay Shore, N.Y.



Hunter Caudill; Quantitative Finance; Chesapeake, Va.

Julia Chase; Accounting; Cumberland, Maine

Jessica Chocklett; Marketing; Daleville, Va.



Christopher Clark; Finance; Alexandria, Va.

Carol Clemmensen; HTM; Langhorne, Pa.

Matthew Cogossi; Management; Williamsburg, Va.



Thomas Costello; Finance; Vienna, Va.

Lance Cothorn; Accounting; Harrisonburg, Va.

Elizabeth Crew; Marketing; Montpelier, Va.



Michael D'Amico; Management; Centreville, Va.

Zachary Devesty; Quantitative Finance; Navesink, N.J.

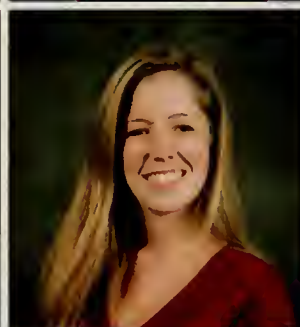
Christopher Dewitt; Marketing; Middletown, Md.



Steven Dewitt; Finance; Middletown, Md.

Diana Doody; Marketing; Virginia Beach, Va.

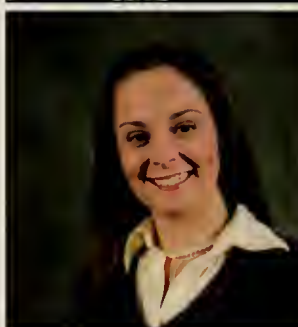
Leslie Duscotch; Accounting; Sterling, Va.



Kristen Dotson; Management; Suffolk, Va.

Jonathan Doyle; Finance; Kings Park, N.Y.

Kevin Dubs; Management; Annandale, Va.



# Teaching Traditions

By Matt Johnson

A thought in passing became a reality in 2005 when Harrisonburg's Chinese Language School opened and instructors began teaching their students Chinese language and culture.

The idea arose when history professor J. Chris Arndt, father of two adopted Chinese girls, mentioned to business professor Ping Wang that he wanted his girls to someday attend a Chinese school, but the closest one was in Charlottesville.

"It turns out that Dr. Wang is kind of the central organizing force for the local Chinese community," said Arndt. "So he came to our [Chinese New Year] celebration and announced that he was establishing a Chinese school for children."

Wang, Arndt and Arndt's wife, Andi, worked together to open the school. The Arndts advertised the school and found a place to call home: the Muhlenberg Lutheran Church on Route 33. Wang found a teacher and other resources the school would need. In 2005, the school was ready to open.

"We established this school for children, adopted children, and also anyone else who is interested," said Chris. "And it's primarily so children originally from China can learn about their culture [and] some language skills."

The school taught students Chinese language and culture through various methods. They made crafts using Chinese characters, learned Chinese folk dances and played recognition games such

as "Simon Says" using Chinese words, which helped the students learn basic words and numbers.

Andi felt like the school gave even more to its students.

"If these children, in the future, want to travel to China, want to search for more personal history in China, want to work for some kind of organization that straddles the East and the West, they would have the choice," said Andi. "What [the school] gives them is the choice."

The Arndts said that their daughters, Olivia and Ruby, enjoyed going to the school, which met every Saturday at 10 a.m.

"It maintains their cultural heritage," said Chris. "That's something that they need to know about, and when you adopt a child [from China], the Chinese government urges you to do that."

Not only was the school helping its students, but the community as well. Wang said that sometimes the group helped bridge the gap for visiting Chinese citizens on business.

"I think in a sense, when you talk about community, over the years we had a lot of contacts talk about [their] businesses in China and ask me to help them," said Wang. "So we did some of those translations [for them]."

Each year the school added one or two students to the roster, and with a growing Chinese community, it appeared that the school would be a lasting institution.

College of Business



**BOOKS** before them, students learn the basics of speaking Chinese from Professor Ping Wang. The school was open to a variety of ages, ranging from young children to adults. Photo by Donovan Seow





# The Game of Life

By Katie Thisdell

Senior Amanda Panuline did not want to learn about the business world from her parents. Though they had tried to tell her that certain skills would give her an edge in her future, she did not believe them.

Then they enrolled her in the College of Business' (COB) "Real Skills for Real Life" and "Outclass the Competition" seminars. After just a few weeks, she understood what her parents were talking about.

"I just hope to gain a bit more knowledge about business, and by getting this pretty brief overview, I think it will just allow me to expand my ideas about the future and maybe help me become aware of new opportunities," explained Panuline.

The course was first offered in 1999, when COB joined with the Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants to teach students valuable real-world information. Speakers discussed different types of insurance, financial markets, job search tips, and advice on interviews and job applications.

"These life skills are things students normally wouldn't learn in an academic setting but they need in everyday life," said Susan Floyd, the program's coordinator.

For seven weeks, students listened to accomplished business professionals speak on a range of issues. In Zane Showker Hall, at least 60 students learned about topics from personal banking to legal matters.

"I think the speakers we have had are really helpful because they have so much direct experience," said Panuline. "The stigma associated with business is that it is a somewhat drab field, but the speakers really break the information down into layman's terms and make it interesting."

The separate etiquette session was new for 2009, after a pilot seminar one night the previous year.

"Etiquette is definitely an essential skill," said Floyd. "You can get in the door with a resume and cover letter, but then you have seven seconds to make an impression."

Through the five-week etiquette program,

Floyd said students would grow more confident in professional settings. It culminated with a formal dinner in April with a reception line, toast and a speaker. This gave students the opportunity to practice presenting themselves and the dining skills they had learned.

The life skills program cost \$189 and the etiquette session cost \$159. A discount was offered if a student signed up for both classes.

"The value of the session is really good, especially in this economy," Floyd said. "This is something that will give students a competitive edge."

Panuline agreed that the speakers' tips were important to put students ahead during harsh economic times.

Students from all majors could participate in the program.

"It offers a great opportunity to network with people from different majors and expand your breadth of knowledge, all while enjoying yourself," Panuline said.

She said she recommended the program to many friends and already threatened her boyfriend into taking it the next time it's offered.

She admitted her parents "were regrettably right all along."

**RESPONDING** to a question from a student, David Penrod speaks about understanding financial markets. Life skills topics included personal banking, legal matters, job searching and financial planning.

Photo by Tiffany Brown





Brittany Edstrom; HTM; Mechanicsville, Va.



Ashley Elstro; International Business; Chapel Hill, N.C.



Lindsey Embry; Management; Chesapeake, Va.



Katelyn Engle; Finance; Cinnaminson, N.J.



Andrew Erdely; Finance; Wall, N.J.



Kristin Fahy; Management; Hingham, Mass.



Elise Fecko; HTM; Carlisle, Pa.



Donald Fitzpatrick; Management; Vienna, Va.



Megan Flora; HTM; Roanoke, Va.



Joseph Fogel; Accounting; Sewickley, Pa.



Heather Ford; Marketing; Roanoke, Va.



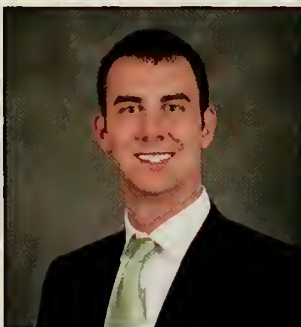
Anna Fowler; Management; Dumfries, Va.



Timothy Ganoe; Management; Boiling Springs, Pa.



Bradley Garfield; Finance; Germantown, Md.



Michael Geiger; Finance; Vienna, Va.



Derek Goff; Management; Warrenton, Va.



George Graves IV; Finance; Potomac, Md.



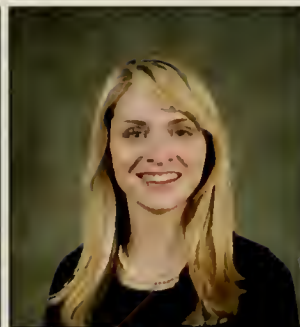
Allen Green IV; HTM; Fredericksburg, Va.



Gregory Groves; Marketing; Whaleyville, Md.

Devon Harris; Marketing; Suffolk, Va.

Cynthia Henry; International Business; Virginia Beach, Va.



Dianna Hirschberg; Management; East Rockaway, N.Y.

Jacob Housman; Management; Chestnut Hill, Mass.

Chandler Iorio; Management; Winchester, N.Y.



Christopher Johnson; Marketing; Shrewsbury, N.J.

John Johnson; Management; Southport, Conn.

Kiley Johnston; HTM; Hebron, Conn.



Ryan Katz; Marketing; Freeport, N.Y.

Mahsa Kazemifar; HTM; Great Falls, Va.

James Keiser; Management; Standardsville, Va.



James Knoblach; Finance; Rockville Center, N.Y.

Jennifer Kochesfahani; Marketing; Cockeysville, Md.

Nicholas Krattinger; Accounting; Waynesboro, Va.



Tracy Kummers; Marketing; Virginia Beach, Va.

Samantha Laroche; Economics; Gloucester, Va.

Emma Laverty; Marketing; Audubon, Pa.



# The Real Deal

By Lianne Palmatier

College of Business

When business majors and non-business majors came together to create and hone a business concept from the ground up, John Rothenberger, the first "Entrepreneur in Residence," at the university, gave advice and served as a resource for the developing entrepreneurs.

Students in Marketing 472: Venture Creation, sought the guidance of Rothenberger, founder and CEO of Strategic Enterprise Solutions Inc. (SE Solutions), to ensure their ideas were on target for launching a business. As a 1988 graduate with a bachelor's degree in business administration in marketing, Rothenberger was a professional gem for students with entrepreneurial dreams, a resource that had been previously untapped.

"This gives students an opportunity to talk to a proven, successful entrepreneur who is a business school alumni from JMU, a person much like themselves," said Rothenberger.

With more than 16 years of executive leadership experience, Rothenberger was able to show students all over campus that entrepreneurship was a legitimate prospect. As the entrepreneur in residence, Rothenberger held regular office hours on campus in addition to co-teaching the venture creation class.

"Venture Creation is a class that is really geared toward the entrepreneurial student," said Rothenberger. "It focuses on the creation of new innovations and small businesses."

The class launched a business from one of the student groups and paired the teams with entrepreneurs that would coach them throughout the semester. The class exposed students to high performance, result-oriented teamwork, according to Rothenberger.

Rothenberger's work both on and off campus provided inspiration. He served as a member of the university's executive advisory council as well as a regular judge for the College of Business' annual business plan competition. He used his experience to encourage students to pursue alternative career options by finding a niche.

After founding and serving as president of the IT company, Aspire Technology Group, which received honors from publications like *Forbes* magazine, Rothenberger started SE Solutions, an IT solutions company focused on helping the Department of Homeland Security. Using real-world knowledge of starting a viable business, Rothenberger advised students on what to expect when starting a business, how to address roadblocks and when to seek funding from venture capitalists, all in the context of pursuing viable dreams.

"Students may be able to get questions answered that they were unable to get answered before at JMU," he said. "It gives them hope and validation that they can pursue their dreams and be successful."



**ACCOMPLISHED** entrepreneur John Rothenberger discusses strategies with students. Rothenberger aided students in developing businesses in the class that inspired Craving Cookies, the popular cookie delivery company created by JMU students. Photo courtesy of Photography Services





# Be Our Guest

By Ariel Spengler

Most university students could not say that they had attended a wine tasting for class credit. Most could also not admit to having gone on a field trip or to cooking and serving a meal to 200 guests. Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) majors, however, did all three.

"We focus on the hospitality industry in respect to hotels, restaurants, country clubs, meetings, event planning and other branches of the industry," said senior Jen Everdale.

The HTM major differed from other majors on campus because of its abundance of hands-on classes.

"I believe that a combination of traditional learning and the hands-on approach is a great way for students going into the hospitality industry to learn," said senior Rachel Fame.

The experience gained outside of classroom lectures appealed to many students.

"I love how hands-on the program is," added Everdale. "Outside of the classroom, HTM students need to complete hundreds of hours of industry-related work and an internship, and our professors bring in lots of guest speakers."

One of the most challenging requirements for HTM majors was the completion of their theme dinner during their senior year. In groups of six or seven students, they had to prepare a dinner for 200 or more guests—from the decorations and entertainment to the dinner and cleanup.

Everdale and Fame completed their theme dinner in January. Before they could begin planning, however, they took an entire semester to prepare.

"The deliverable," said Everdale. "The two words no HTM student wants to hear."

The deliverable was a 250-page project completed before the dinner that contained all of the plans for the event. The project was the end result of their semester-long preparation.

"During the planning stages, groups meet at least once a week and are in constant contact with one another all semester long,"

said Fame. "You really grow to either love or hate your group members. I loved mine."

The groups hosted their event in the Festival Ballroom. Everdale and Fame's dinner theme was "A Night at The Oscars," which included paparazzi at the door, a huge Oscar statue and a dashing host in a tuxedo. Meanwhile, the group worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the event ran smoothly.

"Think of comparing it to your wedding," said Everdale. "It is the most exciting yet terrifying day of your life."

Six courses and three performers later, their theme dinner came to a close.

"After the dinner, we clean up, sleep a little, breathe, and relax for the first time since the previous semester," said Everdale. "Sometimes there are tears."

The team was required to prepare one final binder full of budget information, employee evaluations and a timeline of the night's events.

"I proved to myself that I am prepared to manage an event similar to the one that my group and I planned and executed," said Fame after the event.

Everdale was glad to have such a strong group dynamic. "I had the best team I could ever imagine," said Everdale. "They taught me a hundred different lessons that I would never be able to thank them enough for."

After the yearlong commitment, HTM majors walked away with a life experience to help them in the future.

"I would feel comfortable taking on a hospitality job after graduation," said Everdale.

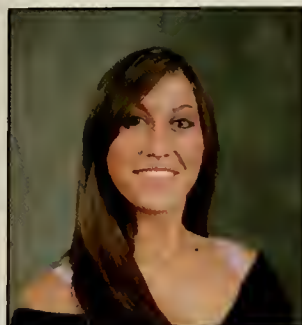
Fame agreed. "All of my work experience and my internship have been some of my most valuable learning."

**CROWN** and wings on, sophomore Patrick Crosson stands over the pumpkin display during UPB's Halloween Late Night Breakfast. Crosson, an HTM major, focused on special events for the evening.

*Photo courtesy of Brittany Rosato*

**DRESSED** up, Linzie Blythe and her friends pose during their internship at Disney World. The Disney internship took place during one semester and summer, providing students with a great deal of experience in the service industry. *Photo courtesy of Brittany Rosato*





Jennifer Lodder; Marketing; Riverdale N.J.



Robert Lurie Jr; Quantitative Finance; Short Hills, N.J.



Alison Maccarone; Finance; Quakertown, Pa.



Karen Maddox; Marketing; Poquoson, Va.



Christopher Martin; Finance; Cedar Grove, N.J.



Kelly Mathis; Accounting; Virginia Beach, Va.



Jaclyn McArdle; International Business; Cedar Knolls, N.J.



Thomas Melton; Economics; Sandston, Va.



Scott Meyer; Management; Hillsborough, N.J.



Jeremy Miller; Finance; Berryville, Va.



Katelyn Mitchell; Management; Greensboro, N.C.



Tanya Mobed; Economics; Pakistan



John Moffa; Management; Lake Grove, N.Y.



Kristina Mohler; Management; Winchester, Va.



Rachael Morris; HTM; Harrisonburg, Va.



Jason Motala; Finance; Arlington, Va.



Hanane Mouhssine; Int'l Business; Sterling, Va.



Jeffrey Mullen; Finance; Marlton, N.J.



Tara Nemith; Marketing; Camden, Va.  
Katherine Norris; Accounting; Richmond, Va.  
Tess O'Brien; HTM; Reston, Va.



Kelsey Pack; HTM; Mount Crawford, Va.  
Jessica Parsons; Management; Virginia Beach, Va.  
Amy Priddy; Management; Newport News, Va.



Bernard Quinn Jr; Finance; Saint James, N.Y.  
Erica Ramirez; International Business; Fairfax, Va.  
Carolyn Rehman; HTM; Silver Spring, Md.



Katherine Reis; Marketing; Ellicott, Md.  
Jaclyn Roles; Management; Reston, Va.  
Mary Rosenthal; Management; Street, Md.



Samantha Salamone; HTM; Garden City, N.J.  
Catherine Sawin; Marketing; Alexandria, Va.  
Stephanie Scamardella; HTM; Holmdel, N.J.



Thomas Schrack; Accounting; Bayville, N.Y.  
Brian Scott; Quantitative Finance; Port Murray, N.J.  
Bianca Sheldon; Accounting; Landing, N.J.



# Consumer Report

By Sarah Chain

College of Business

Blindfold a group of students, place unmarked cups of various soft drinks in front of them, and see if they can distinguish between the sodas. If you guessed that they would have no problems distinguishing a lemon-lime soda from a cola, you would be mistaken.

Projects like the soft drink challenge were typical class periods for Marketing 385: Buyer Behavior (MKTG 385). Kenneth Bahn, one of the professors who taught the course in the College of Business, began the experiment to explore the theory of perception and whether taste actually sold a food product, or if something else about the brand did.

"I suspected people could tell the difference between Coke and Pepsi, but what really surprised me was that an overwhelming majority could not tell the difference between Coke and Sprite," said senior Matthew Stowell.

Senior Brooks Cilford agreed. "It shows just how much marketing plays a role in our perceptions of a product."

The perception experiment was just one of the projects in MKTG 385 that helped students to understand how consumers behaved in the marketplace—and why.

"It's impossible to develop any kind of marketing strategy or policy without first understanding your target market," said Bahn.

Because of this need, MKTG 385 focused on identifying patterns in consumption and possession of products. Bahn assigned a research-intensive paper on a controversial issue in marketing, encouraging students to apply different consumer behavior theories discussed in class. In the fall semester, topics ranged from the presidential election and campaign to the ethics of advertising to

young kids.

Clifford chose "women in sports" as his topic and interviewed 100 people for his paper and presentation. He then compiled the information to formulate a theory about whether people thought it was fair that female athletes got paid much less than men in sports.

Professor Val Larsen, who also taught the course, assigned students a similar paper using consumer interviews to support the textbook's ideas or formulate their own theories about consumer behavior.

"Other classes familiarize people with numbers and spreadsheets," said Larsen. "But people also need to be able to deal with these unstructured problems." The paper encouraged students to pay attention to details as consumers related their experiences, focusing on how things fit together in a pattern or coherent picture.

"It's pretty similar to the kinds of things that would be done in certain kinds of anthropological studies or sociological studies using qualitative data," said Larsen.

Marketing students appreciated the open-ended, unstructured nature of the course, along with the opportunity to choose their own research topics.

"Just reiterating what we are taught is not enough," said junior Blythe Klippstein. "We need to apply the theories and practices ourselves to topics that interest us."

Students were free to choose a theory discussed in class that interested them, or look for patterns in their interviews and then formulate their own theories. In either approach, Bahn and Larsen encouraged their students to gather details and examples from consumers' lives to allow a new coherence to emerge.

It was simple to differentiate between a good and poor paper, according to Larsen. "A strong paper is like an 'Aha!' experience."

The theories the class explored allowed students to understand what drove a consumer to choose one brand over another, knowledge that would be used for careers post-graduation in sales, advertising and marketing research.



**WITH** Wal-Mart's weekly insert in hand, a student compiles research for his marketing paper. Students interviewed more than 100 sources for their paper that applied consumer theory to a controversial marketing issue. Photo by Julia Simcox





# Crunching Numbers By Caitlin Harrison

Imagine going to class for four and a half hours a day, and then returning home and doing four and a half hours of homework. For six weeks each summer, this was the daily routine for students who planned to become Certified Public Accountants (CPAs).

"It is an exhausting pace," said Professor Paul Copley. "It was the first class of students that gave the program the name 'CPA Exam Boot Camp.'"

In 2004, Copley and Professor Brad Roof came up with the course as an alternative way to prepare students, offering a review of the material tested on the CPA exam.

"Despite all of the studying and long hours, it really did pay off in the long run," said Cara Bunker, who graduated in 2007 and participated in the program that summer.

Becker CPA Review, a company that helped students prepare for the exam, endorsed the reviews and provided the materials. Copley talked to the regional manager of Becker and proposed a six-week course, a much shorter time period than Becker normally recommended. They agreed that if 30 students signed up, Becker would test the different format.

"This manager later admitted to me that as he left my office, he said to his companion, 'Copley is crazy if he thinks he can get 30 students,'" said Copley.

Forty-five students signed up for the first class.

After graduation, if students had a job lined up, the traditional preparation approach for the exam had graduates working full time and going to class once a week for six months, using their free time to study. Copley's Boot Camp provided the same review in a much shorter period for students who preferred to take the exam directly after graduation.

"JMU students are bright and they immediately saw the advantages of the condensed course," said Copley. The summer course was also advantageous for students who still had leases in Harrisonburg, as it allowed students to live in their own apartments or townhouses and finish out their leases.

The CPA exam tested students on four different topics: financial reporting, auditing, regulation and business environment. According to Copley, more than 40 percent of CPA candidates failed all four parts. The national passing rate was 16 percent, but 46 percent of the students who took the Boot Camp passed in 2005.

The university was ranked 25th for performance on the exam compared to 2,000 other colleges and universities. It also had the 11th highest pass rate among students without advanced degrees.

"I went into my first day of work feeling truly prepared and ready for the challenges of the working world," said graduate Jake Kinney, in an e-mail to Dr. Copley. Kinney graduated in 2007, and passed all four parts of the CPA exam after finishing the exam preparation. "Each of [the professors] have given me so much knowledge helping to develop the tools to succeed and I truly appreciate their hard work," said Kinney.

Copley felt that overall the program was a success.

"From the School of Accounting's point of view, the Boot Camp provides exactly what we wanted," explained Copley. "JMU now has a brand name – if you hire JMU graduates, there is a very high probability that those individuals will show up to work in September with this exam behind them. This sets us apart from most other schools in the country."

**DILIGENTLY** taking notes, students listen to their professor during their four-and-a-half-hour CPA class. The CPA exam focused on different accounting topics such as financial reporting and auditing.

*Photo courtesy of Julia Simcox*





David Smallfield; Management; Fairfax County, Va.



Daniel Smullen; Marketing; Orelan, Pa.



Kerry Stanton; Finance; Hillsborough, N.J.



Sarah Strup; HTM; Oakton, Va.



Michael Swinson; Accounting; Harrisonburg, Va.



Megan Vlasho; HTM; Alexandria, Va.



Meredith Ward; Marketing; Fredericksburg, Va.



Steven Wilkinson; Economics; Annandale, Va.



James Williams; HTM; Virginia Beach, Va.



Allison Wood; Marketing; Richmond, Va.



Timothy Woodland; Management; Center Moriches, N.Y.



Eui Yoon; Economics; Harrisonburg, Va.



Garrett Zaino; Finance; Great Falls, Va.



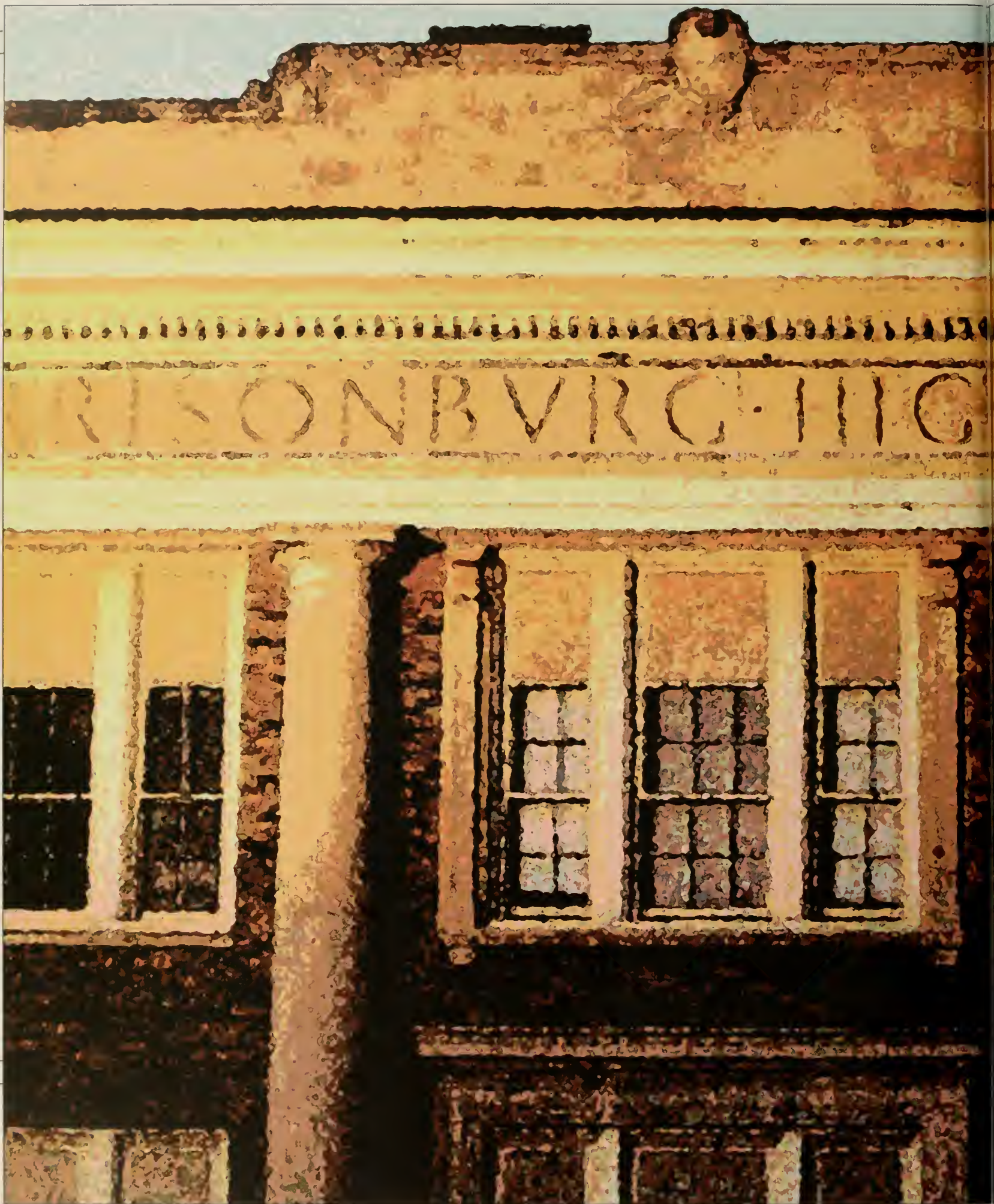


Photo by Natalie Wall





Education Relief Trip 208

Young Children's Program 210

Army Nurse Corps 212

College of

Education





# Live and Learn

By Rebecca Schneider

The university began in 1908 as a college for education, and the fundamental mission statement and principles had not changed significantly since then. The College of Education (COE) was a professional program for America's future teachers. COE had different programs of study, each concentrating on a specific aspect of one's educational and career goals.

The early, elementary and reading education department focused on literacy and developmental learning for elementary-aged students. Junior Eden Middleton, an aspiring math or science teacher in the Elementary Education (ELED) program, enjoyed her subject area classes the most.

"I like focusing on math and science and ways to teach them to younger students," said Middleton. "It has been a lot of fun learning how to break down concepts to levels that each age group can comprehend. [The professors] did an awesome job relating math subjects to our future as elementary school teachers."

The early, elementary and reading education department also ran the Young Children's Program, a preschool for children ages 3 to 4. Each class had a teacher who was supported by a staff of students. The program served as practical experience for COE students.

The exceptional education department was dedicated to preparing students to teach and serve individuals with exceptional circumstances. The department housed three programs: Gifted Education, Special Education (SPED) and Teaching English as a Second Language. There was an option for students majoring in Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies (IdLS) to minor in SPED, allowing them to interweave different areas of knowledge into various disciplines.

"IdLS allows us to take some very interesting classes from all different majors," said junior Lauren Lamore. "I was able to take religion and U.S. politics as well as an abnormal psychology class last semester and really loved them."

Another department housed by COE was learning, technology and leadership education. Students learned about topics including educational foundation, leadership and development. Human resource development and adult education programs were also available.

The newly established Career Development Academy met the needs of adults age 17 and older who did not speak English as their primary language. Through the academy, COE reached out to Harrisonburg's diverse community.

The middle, secondary and mathematics education department offered a program that prepared teachers to positively influence their students and society, including pre-professional and graduate programs that led to an initial licensure in middle and secondary education and/or a Masters of Arts in Teaching.

All COE departments, faculty, students and resources were located in Memorial Hall, a short walk from the main campus.

"Being away from the rest of campus isn't too fun," said Middleton, "but overall I am still very happy with the program."

The environment promoted enthusiasm for education in the students and faculty.

"You wouldn't be in the program if you didn't have a passion for teaching, which is something we all bond over," said Middleton. "The camaraderie between students is great."

Using the COE as their joining force, the teachers of tomorrow graduated well equipped to teach the upcoming generations in the classroom. *Information compiled from*

*jmu.edu/catalog/08*



## Dean's Office

Phil Wishon, Dean

Margaret Shaeffer, Associate Dean

Margaret Kyger, Assistant Dean

Joyce Conley, Secretary

Catherine Hoffman, Administrative Assistant

Yvonne Miller, Administrative Assistant

Violet Sherman, Secretary

## Departments

Early, Elementary & Reading Education

Exceptional Education

Learning, Technology & Leadership Education

Middle, Secondary & Mathematics Education

Military Science

## COE by the Numbers

Most Popular Majors:

Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies (823)

Education (246)

Exceptional Education (43)

Full-Time Undergraduates: 810

Part-Time Undergraduates: 13



**CHILDREN** listen intently to a classmate's father play the guitar. Students in COE recieved valuable experience by working with children. Photo by Kim Lofgren





# From the Ground Up

By Matt Johnson

Commonly known as the "Little Manhattan" of the south in the first half of the 20th century, McDowell County, W.Va., had since become the eighth poorest county in the United States. During Thanksgiving break, a group of students partnered with Aid for America and traveled to McDowell to help revitalize this once vibrant coal-mining town.

"[McDowell] had been neglected," said education professor Mary Slade, who led the trip. "It was a place that desperately needed some help. Very little work had been done."

Slade, along with a group of 50 students and members of the community, went to McDowell during Thanksgiving break to help the poverty-stricken area. While there, one group gutted an old building called "Tyson Towers," once a large hotel with a guest list including Harry Truman and Lyndon Johnson, which caught fire as the result of an addict leaving his methamphetamine unattended.

Four businesses and housing for 31 families were lost as a result of the fire, according to junior Vinod Narayan. "We did a lot of gutting and debris cleanup so this building could be deemed ready to be rebuilt again," said Narayan. "All my peers worked tirelessly to pull water and fire-damaged debris from the building so the rebuilding process could start."

A second group worked in a citizen's home, helping to improve its run-down condition. "My group, for about three days, helped rebuild this woman's house," said senior Justin Broughman.

Broughman said his group tore down wallpaper in the second floor bedrooms to find coal dust hiding in the walls from years of the homeowner burning coal. After they cleaned the coal dust and took out the old paper-thin insulation, they brought in new drywall to put up, a job later finished in December by a fraternity from the university, Sigma Phi Epsilon.

The groups also put together and handed out 500 Thanksgiving boxes filled with traditional holiday food for the families in McDowell, which many would have otherwise gone without.

"It was one of the most amazing experiences ever, because we were able to talk to the residents of the town as we gave them these turkey dinners that they could take home and enjoy with their families," said Narayan.

Broughman felt that it was really important, not only for him, but for everyone, to volunteer.

"It's my opinion that any able-bodied person that has the means to help others, should help others," said Broughman. "If you're muscular you should be carrying drywall to the second floor of this house, and if you're a millionaire you should donate to a certain cause. I think that's what embodies the human spirit."

The trip to McDowell was just the first of many. Those involved planned to use their knowledge to help create businesses, jobs and a place for the children in the area to have educational resources.

"Here we all are sitting on this campus with a wealth of knowledge, research and ideas," said Slade. "Why not take it to a place [like McDowell]?"



**DONNING** work boots, gloves and dust masks, seniors AJ Wolford and Jason Myers and sophomore Zach Hally assess the damage in the hotel before they begin to remove fire and water-damaged debris. The building once housed a hotel named Tyson Towers. Photo courtesy of Justin Broughman



**FITTING** a screw on the bit, junior Layla Tannous prepares to secure the sheetrock to the wall. New drywall covered walls that had been purged of coal dust, giving the room a clean slate. Photo courtesy of Justin Broughman





Kathryn Allen; IdLS; Falls Church, Va.



Cassandra Beahm; IdLS; Edinburg, Va.



Catherine Black; IdLS; Baltimore, Md.



Alicia Bobrowski; IdLS; Broomall, Pa.



Allison Bourne; IdLS; Fairfax, Va.



John Bradshaw; IdLS; McGaheysville, Va.



Kathleen Caggiano; IdLS; Middletown, Del.



Ashley Clark; IdLS; Petersburg, Va.



Katie Conway; IdLS; Bohemia, N.Y.



Catherine Cooper; IdLS; Staunton, Va.



Shauna Corbo; IdLS; Manasquan, N.J.



Matthew Cranston; IdLS; Parkton, Md.



Sarah Creamer; IdLS; Midlothian, Va.



Lauren Doane; IdLS; Springfield, Va.



Darianne Dolewski; IdLS; Ivanhoe, Va.



Amy Fitzgerald; IdLS; Chester, Va.



Stephanie Garrett; IdLS; Chesterfield, Va.



Tiffany Graves; IdLS; Louisa County, Va.



Stefanie Gumas; IdLS; Chesapeake, Va.

Holly Hartman; IdLS; Harrisonburg, Va.

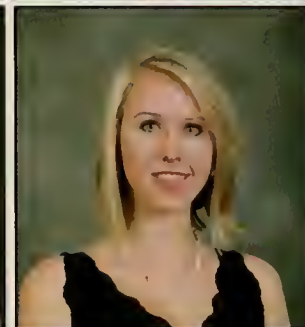
Casey Hazelgrove; IdLS; Botetourt, Va.



Aimee Heishman; IdLS; Edinburg, Va.

Bethany Holley; IdLS; Salem, Va.

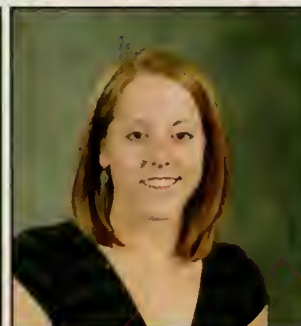
Kathryn Hyson; IdLS; Scottsville, Va.



Emily Law; IdLS; Asburn, Va.

Jaimie Lofurno; IdLS; Elkins Park, Pa.

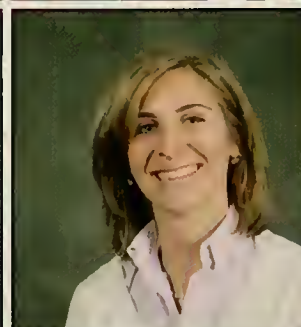
Courtney Luongo; IdLS; Harleysville, Pa.



Jenna McDonald; IdLS; Virginia Beach, Va.

Cassandra Moore; IdLS; Perry, Okla.

Janine Morrison; IdLS; Hilliard, Ohio



Tara Neel; IdLS; Hallwood, Va.

Nicole Orokos; IdLS; Richmond, Va.

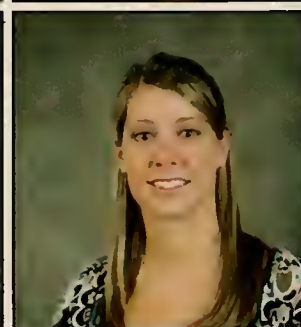
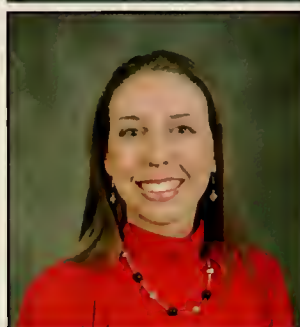
Ashley Owen; IdLS; Wakefield, Va.



Michele Ritner; IdLS; Manassas, Va.

Amber Roberts; IdLS; Crewe, Va.

Carolyn Rupert; IdLS; Stafford, Va.





# Child's Play

By Steph Synoracki

A playful atmosphere existed in the west wing of Anthony-Seeger Hall, where young children engaged in social interactions with one another while learning basic motor skills that they would build on the rest of their lives. Every Monday through Friday, a dozen or so three and four year olds gathered to learn and play.

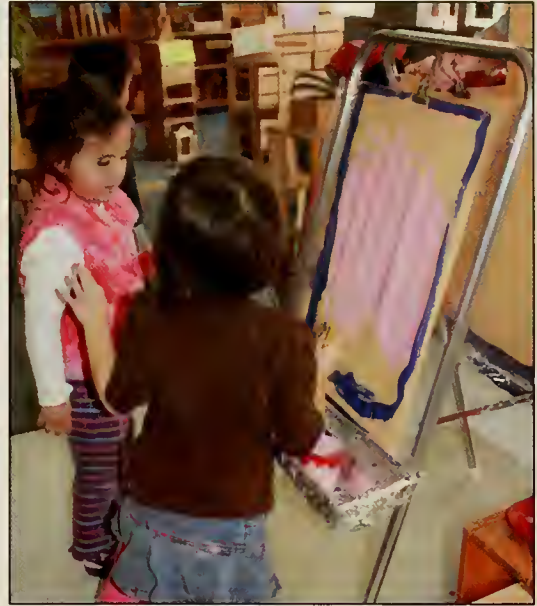
The Young Children's Program (YCP) was designed as a learning experience for juniors in their first semester of early childhood education courses. The students acted as both observers and teachers during their time at YCP. Approximately 30 to 40 juniors participated in this program each semester. These students assisted two teachers, Nancy Guerrier and Kelly Rooney, throughout the day.

Sue Hutchinson, the coordinator of YCP, focused on three main objectives with her student assistants. They gained an understanding of child development, appropriate curriculum for young children and how to effectively interact with children of that age.

The YCP teachers took advantage of the university's campus as much as possible, whether it was taking the kids over to the Music Building to learn about sound or letting the children ride around the Convocation Center on tricycles.

Each day, the children's growth was supported in the areas of cognitive, physical and artistic development as well as social and emotional development. Daily activities such as painting, building with blocks, reading, snack time and special guests all helped to meet these goals. In addition, classroom routines incorporated the use of written and oral language, numeracy, science and social studies, according to the YCP Student Staff Handbook.

Family involvement was very important at YCP. The program provided a minimum of four family events per year, along with a number of other communications. Daily messages were posted at the entrance of YCP and weekly news-



**ART** is the subject of the day as children in the program utilize their pink and blue paint, creating masterpieces. Along with artistic development, students involved focused on physical, cognitive, social and emotional skills with the children. *Photo by Kim Lofgren*

letters were sent home to family members to let them know

about upcoming events. Parents had the opportunity to speak with teachers at conferences during the school year as well. Monthly program newsletters and class schedules were posted on the YCP Web site.

Children enjoyed special events such as a visit by a classmate's father to play the guitar for them. He strummed a few songs for the children while they sang along and clapped. Then they were given the chance to show their talent on the guitar.

Junior Katie Wood enjoyed her experience at YCP. Once a week, Wood spent the day surrounded by young children eager to play and learn. The other days of the week, she was busy learning about early childhood and development in two courses within the College of Education. She liked watching the children interact with one another and helping them with art activities. Wood was unsure of her post-graduation plans, but hoped this learning experience would point her in the right direction.

At the end of the day, the children proudly went home with their masterpiece paintings and stories of the days' activities, while the teaching assistants left with smiles on their faces,

looking forward to another day at YCP.

**SHARING** his knowledge, a father teaches children about his electric guitar during the Young Children's Program (YCP) in Anthony-Seeger Hall. YCP was a semester-long program for juniors who majored in early childhood education.

*Photo by Kim Lofgren*





# Army Strong

By Ariel Spengler

When 6 a.m. rolled around, senior Chandler Moser and junior Kristin Smith forgot about trying to squeeze in a few extra hours of sleep. For them and dozens of other Army Nursing majors, it was time for physical training.

The course was known "lovingly" as PT, according to Moser. So why did they decide to take on the extra workload?

"I grew up as a military brat," said Smith. "I always knew that I would one day pursue my own path in the military."

Moser decided early on to join the Army ROTC, but it was only after speaking with his mother that he chose to major in nursing as well.

"The biggest influence in my decision was my mother, who is also a nurse," said Moser. "Hearing her hospital stories growing up would both disgust and intrigue me."

The nursing major was known for its heavy course load and grueling exams, so investing in an equally strenuous ROTC program was a big commitment.

"Army ROTC Cadets on a nursing scholarship have the added benefit of taking an already burdensome nursing major and piling on ROTC work on top of that," said Moser.

"We aren't just trained to become nurses; we are trained to become officers in the Army Nurse Corps," added Smith. "We go through physical training, leadership labs and field training exercises."

Army Nursing students were required to take all the same classes as nursing majors, as well as at least six additional military science credits per semester. They were also expected to attend PT three mornings per week. Summer train-

ing courses were additional options.

Smith planned to attend that summer's leader's training course held at Fort Knox in Kentucky.

"We learn to become excellent leaders," said Smith.

The hard work did not end after graduation. Both Smith and Moser had high hopes for their futures: pass their National Council Licensure Examination and then be commissioned as Army Officers.

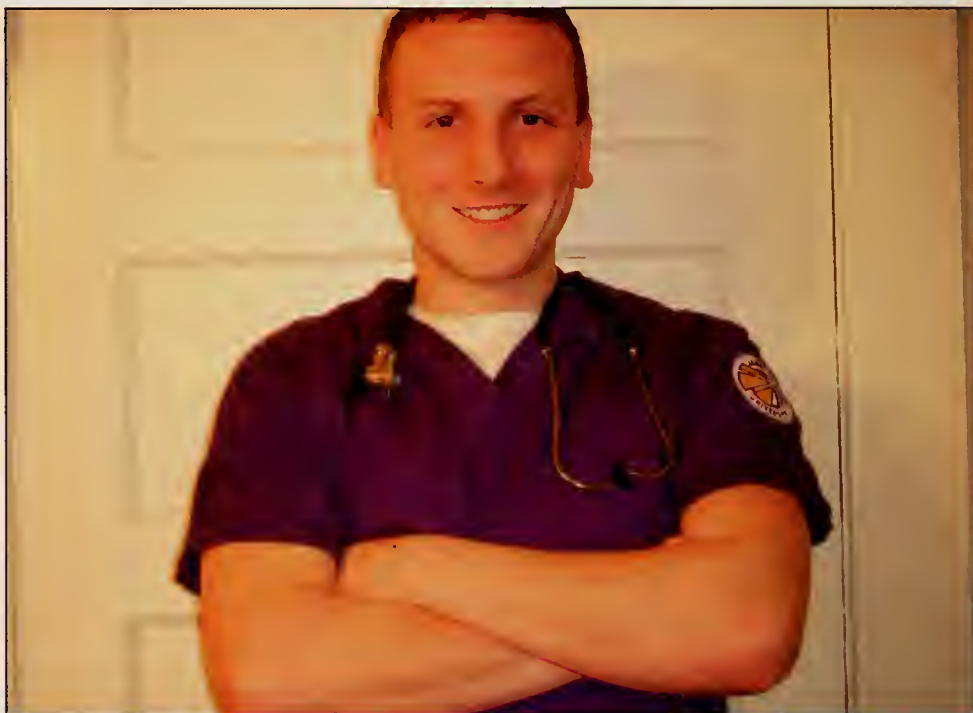
"From there, most fledgling nursing officers will spend the first year or two as a medical-surgical staff nurse in a large Army medical center," said Moser. "It is a process not unlike what a civilian nurse would go through."

Smith hoped to go to a Leadership Development and Assessment Course where she could graduate as a Second Lieutenant and be commissioned into active duty in the Army.

"ROTC nurses know they have a secure future for as long as they want to continue in the Army," said Moser.

It was a demanding four-year program with the university, but it was something they would recommend to other hopefuls.

"Being a nursing major is strain enough on one's life emotionally, personally and physically," said Smith. "But it is all achievable, and if it's what you want, it's worth it in the end."



**POSING** for the camera, senior Chandler Moser shows off his Army Nurse fashion. Photo courtesy of Chandler Moser



Amanda Rutherford; IdLS; Winchester, Va.



Jennifer Schiavone; IdLS; Miller Place, N.Y.



Lauren Sorrentino; Elementary Education; East Rockaway, N.Y.



Ann Spector; IdLS; Jackson, N.J.



Amanda Steenfott; IdLS; Arlington, Va.



Kerby Stuller; IdLS; Richmond, Va.



Amy Sutphin; IdLS; Warrenton, Va.



Raphael Villacrusis; IdLS; Woodbridge, Va.



Kristine Wasser; IdLS; Leesburg, Va.



Kevin Zeiler; Education; Baltimore, Md.



Sarah Zelasko; Elementary Education; Ambler, Pa.





Photo by Natalie Wall

# College School

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PYSC 312: Forensic Psychology 232

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# of Integrated Science & Technology





# The East Side

By Sarah Chain

Developed in the early '90s as a response to Virginia's desire to address the rapid social and economic changes of the world and strengthen Virginia's leadership position among the states, the College of Integrated Science and Technology (CISAT) comprised professional programs that promoted interdisciplinary education to enhance the quality of life in the modern world.

The three main goals of CISAT were commitment to an interdisciplinary curriculum, emphasis on innovation and belief in the value of technology and professional preparation, according to its Web site.

The college contained the departments of computer science, communication science and disorders, graduate psychology, health sciences, integrated science and technology, kinesiology, nursing, psychology and social work.

Students and faculty within the college focused largely on improving society at local, national and international levels.

CISAT International, a program that combined faculty and students, worked to develop a curriculum that prepared students for living and working in a global society by emphasizing the skills needed to thrive in a multicultural environment.

Through the university's Lifelong Learning Institute, faculty

taught non-credit classes to adults older than 50 years of age. "There are no exams or grades in the courses, just a sharing with others in the interest of learning," according to Director Nancy Owens.

Students were paired with adults to co-mentor children in the Shenandoah Valley through Generations Together, a program that worked to break down the stereotypes based on age.

Founded on an innovative approach to education, CISAT encouraged students to use creativity to seize the opportunities that arose at the university.

Student projects ranged from developing a method to make solar energy a more affordable prospect for the general public to applying knowledge from psychology lectures to understand the state of mental health in Ghana—and using the information to help Ghanaians.

Through research, international travel and community service, CISAT emphasized the growth of students as individuals in addition to the importance of academic knowledge, accomplishing its goal of educating students and preparing them to enter the professional world.



**SENIOR** Linda motivates senior citizens to exercise and stay active at Sunnyside Retirement Center. Sunnyside hosted an annual senior fitness testing program that PROMotion members attended. Photo courtesy of Kristen McGoldrick

## Dean's Office

Jerry Benson, Dean

Rhonda Zingraff, Associate Dean

Jonathan Spidel, Assistant Dean

## Departments

Communication Sciences & Disorders

Computer Sciences

Health Sciences

Integrated Science & Technology

Kinesiology

Nursing

Psychology

Social Work

## CISAT by the Numbers

Most Popular Majors:

Health Services Administration (838)

Kinesiology (829)

Psychology (787)

Full-Time Undergraduates: 4,590

Part-Time Undergraduates: 133



**HAVING** completed a simulation, senior Casey Bloomfield discusses her actions with Marjorie Scheikl. Feedback from fellow students and professors allowed students to recognize their errors and find ways to correct them. *Photo by Natalie Wall*





# Offering Opportunities

By Lianne Palmatier

In an era where multiple programs were developed to increase the daily activity of children and improve the overall health of youth, the importance of physical activity for every child was not overlooked.

In Kinesiology 313: Adapted Physical Education (KIN 313), Professor Thomas Moran and his students worked with children with special needs to learn skills that they were less likely to pick up in regular gym programs.

"This program, Project CLIMB (Children Learning to Improve Movement Behaviors), was created to give the disabled students in our community the chance to participate in physical activity that was specifically designed for them," said senior Stephanie Hobeck.

Each student was paired with a special needs child from the Harrisonburg area at W.H. Keister Elementary School. Through involvement in the program, the students not only taught the children, but also learned from them throughout the process.

The class helped Hobeck decide what she wanted to do with her life. Hobeck applied and was accepted to graduate school at the University of Virginia, where she planned to study and work specifically with children who have disabilities.

"I met and befriended a little boy who changed my world," said Hobeck. "He taught me so much more than I'm sure I ever taught him, about life and being the best that you can be."

The main purpose of this program was to give one-on-one attention to participating children that they would not be able to receive in a normal class. With a full physical education class, children did not always receive individualized attention. Project CLIMB was tailored to fit disabled children's needs to work on specific strengths and improve on weaknesses.

"Dr. Moran is an inspiration," said senior Heather Shifflett. "The stories he shared with us in class opened my mind and made me realize that anything in life is possible. It is important to have a program like Project CLIMB available for students with disabilities. They

need to be active just like anybody else."

It was often harder for students with disabilities to find programs that suited their needs, because there were not as many programs available to them. Making this activity available led to several success stories and allowed students a glimpse into what their future careers might entail.

"I was a student who had very little experience getting involved with students with disabilities," said senior Andrew Camporeale. "After being involved with Project CLIMB, I have gained a life-changing perspective on teaching and life in general."

By the last day of the program, the students had made a friend and could see the progress made over the semester.

"On the final day of class, my student had an amazing day," said Shifflett. "He worked harder than ever and stayed motivated the entire time. This was special because I was really able to see his progression from day one."

A change in perspective was important to be successful in the program. Life-changing for both the students and children, the program contributed an added understanding to students' lives.

Senior John Parks agreed. "Dr. Moran was an incredibly influential and inspirational professor who showed us that physical limitations do not have to limit the effect that a person can have on another."

**PREPARING** for physical activities, graduate student Meghan Wyka gets to know children in Project CLIMB. Activities took place at W.H. Keister Elementary School in Harrisonbrg. *Photo courtesy of Meghan Wyka*







Yasir Abdul-Rahman; Health Sciences; Stafford, Va.



Alison Adler; Health Sciences; Fairfax Station, Va.



Daniele Armstrong; Social Work; Harrisonburg, Va.



Rebecca Ayers; Health Sciences; Richmond, Va.



Clare Badgley; Psychology; Reston, Va.



Kacey Bardwell; Psychology; Sterling, Va.



Elizabeth Bihn; CSD; Blue Bell, Pa.



Martha Bilicki; Psychology; Alexandria, Va.



Meaghan Bishop; CSD; Wantagh, N.Y.



Stephen Blankenship; Athletic Training; Virginia Beach, Va.



Marielle Bonaroti; Health Sciences; Export, Pa.



Laura Brady; Health Sciences; Herndon, Va.



Fielding Brewbaker; Kinesiology; Salem, Va.



Michelle Buddenhagen; Health Sciences; Chesapeake, Va.



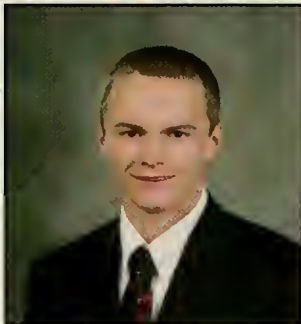
Brian Burk; ISAT; Annandale, Va.



Alyson Butler; CSD; Forest, Va.



Melissa Carrithers; Dietetics; Newport News, Va.



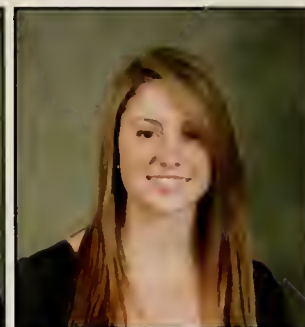
Tyler Carroll; Kinesiology; Winchester, Va.



Tarin Carter; Kinesiology; Richmond, Va.

Sarah Chappel; Geographic Science; Elkton, Va.

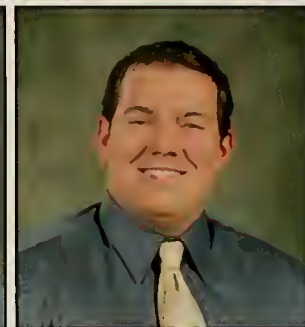
Marissa Chiantella; Geographic Science; Leesburg, Va.



Cari Clark; Health Sciences; South Boston, Va.

Jamie Claytor; Psychology; Mt Sidney, Va.

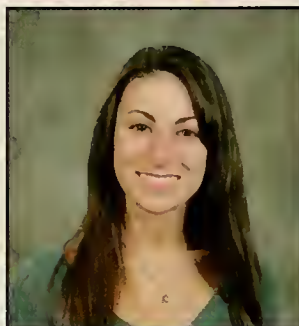
Christopher Collins; Kinesiology; Fairfax, Va.



Nicole Cottone; Psychology; Middleton, Mass.

Bryan Couch; Sports Management; Potomac Falls, Va.

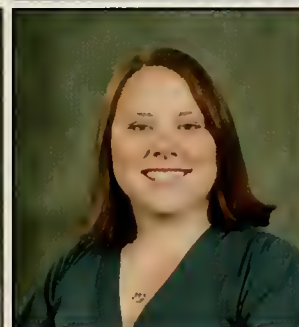
Kiara Cox; Kinesiology; Virginia Beach, Va.



Renee Crutchfield; CSD; Harrisonburg, Va.

Heather Cyphers; Nursing; Reading, Pa.

Ashley Daniels; Health Sciences; Richmond, Va.



Lauren Dawson; Health Sciences; Gretna, Va.

Phillip Decker; Kinesiology; Danville, Va.

Patricia Dejesus; Health Sciences; Clifton, Va.



Morgan Dietrick; CSD; Ashland, Va.

Andrea Dillon; Psychology; Springfield, Va.

Benjamin Dolewski; Kinesiology; Setauket, N.Y.





# Out of the Box

By Nicole Brigagliano

Could you build a structure from playing cards that weighed 85 grams and could hold 900 pounds? Students in the Destination ImagiNation (DI) program could—and did.

Destination ImagiNation was a worldwide nonprofit educational organization that connected students from the elementary to the university levels through creative thinking. Each year, students competed against one another at regional, state and global competitions.

"DI's whole idea is combining creative problem solving and critical thinking," said Elizabeth Armstrong, professor of DI.

Started at the university as a club in 2004, DI became a course offered year-round shortly after. Members of the class elected officers to lead alongside two professors, Jonathan Spindel and Armstrong.

In the fall semester, students became familiar with the DI format and learned instant challenges, group problems to be solved within five minutes. In the spring, students formed teams and worked on their chosen central challenge, performed at competitions throughout the semester.

Each year, five central challenges were offered in categories including technical, theatrical, structural, improv and combo. All categories required teams to write a skit that related to the problem and perform the challenge in a short period of time.

"You form such an intensely close bond with your group members," said junior Kate Morris, who had taken DI for two years. "You form a unit."

Between brainstorming, research, building sets and writing scripts, groups met anywhere from three to 10 hours per week outside of class time during the spring semester. Within four months, students were expected to complete a central challenge and familiarize themselves with instant challenges.

"It's a lot about being able to look at multiple sides of a problem," said senior Laura Theobald.

Theobald had been involved in DI since middle school and helped the program at the university take shape. As an art major, Theobald believed one of the best parts was how DI brought together all different majors.

"I get very isolated in the 'art land' and it's nice to interact with people of different majors and concentrations," said Theobald.

At competitions, the central challenge, worth 240 points, was ultimately what the teams spent most of their time on. Side trips, worth 60 points, provided an outlet for individuals within the group to showcase their own talents, including dancing, singing or playing a musical instrument.

"This organization is all about creativity and not being so afraid of putting yourself out there," said Theobald. "And thinking outside the box."

As the only university in Virginia to have a DI program, the global competition was the highlight of the semester.

Held annually at the University of Tennessee, globals enabled the university's DI program to compete against other universities from around the world, including schools from British Columbia, Korea and Brazil. In last year's competition of more than 1,000 teams, the university's teams took home two second place finishes and a fourth place finish.

Ultimately, DI enabled students to develop leadership skills and think creatively.

"You explore the craziest of thoughts," said Theobald.

"You learn skills you can't learn in a classroom."



**PREPARING** to drop a baseball down a pipe, junior Katie Morris solves an assigned problem within the five-minute time limit. Destination ImagiNation challenged its students in regional, state and global competitions. Photo by Caroline Blanzaco



**KNEELING** over, a student puts the finishing touches on his solution during a Destination ImagiNation meeting. The club was also a class that offered students one credit in the fall, and three credits in the spring. Photo by Caroline Blanzaco





# Environmental Education

By Sarah Chain

Wayne Teel, an environmental science professor at the university, was a living and breathing example of a man who created his own path. More than 30 years after beginning his study of the environment, he remained involved with the growing ecological concerns present in our society today.

A chemistry major in the early '70s, Teel chose the program because there was no environmental science option at Seattle Pacific University (formerly Seattle Pacific). After graduating, Teel joined forces with Mennonite Central Committee, a relief and development arm of the Mennonite Church. He worked in Sudan for two years teaching high school chemistry, and in Kenya for four years as an agroforestry teacher. The book he authored based on his lectures, "The Pocket Dictionary of Trees and Seeds in Kenya," sold well.

"We had to reprint it a couple of times, which is kind of surprising," said Teel. "I think it just met a demand that was there, and we just happened to tap into it."

After graduate school and a return trip to Africa, Teel ended up involved with Eastern Mennonite University, and through a connection at James Madison University, taught one semester as a replacement for a woman on maternity leave. When the woman left permanently, Teel was hired as a full-time professor in 2000.

In the last decade, Teel had worked to implement a series of changes for the university and the surrounding area, most focused on sustainability and natural resource management. As an adviser to a handful of student projects each semester, Teel encouraged his students to use a hands-on approach to problems they encountered in their research and implementation of their project.

"Learning about the environment is very interesting, but Dr. Teel has helped us make our ideas reality," said senior Bonnie Tang, who partnered with senior Nico Jaramillo to plant a forest of 500 trees, bushes, perennials and herbaceous plants that would filter out storm water runoff from the new Rockingham Memorial Hospital buildings in Harrisonburg. "He's a great professor to go to for environmental projects since he is particularly focused on the applied aspects of study," said Tang.

As a member of the Campus Sustainability Commission, Teel also became involved with the Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World in hopes of using the landscape of the university's campus as an educational setting to promote ecological literacy. Teel believed the campus could be both environmen-

tally sound and of educational value.

His roots in agroforestry and his experiences in Kenya also heavily influenced the projects with which he was involved on campus. After coming across knowledge of Terra Preta, a type of soil in the Amazon that held a large amount of organic matter and nutrients for long periods of time, Teel set up a test study at the university with seniors Allison Avery and Caitlin Boyer, and junior Annie Cantrell. The students began testing the use of biochar, a method of using charcoal created from agricultural waste products and waste wood to enrich soil nutrition.

"Dr. Teel gave us a lot of direction, education resources and helpful hints, yet ultimately let us have freedom over the project," said Avery. "It was a good balance between supervision and standing back in observation."

Boyer agreed. "He knows his stuff inside and out. He remained very involved, yet allowed us to design and carry out the plans."

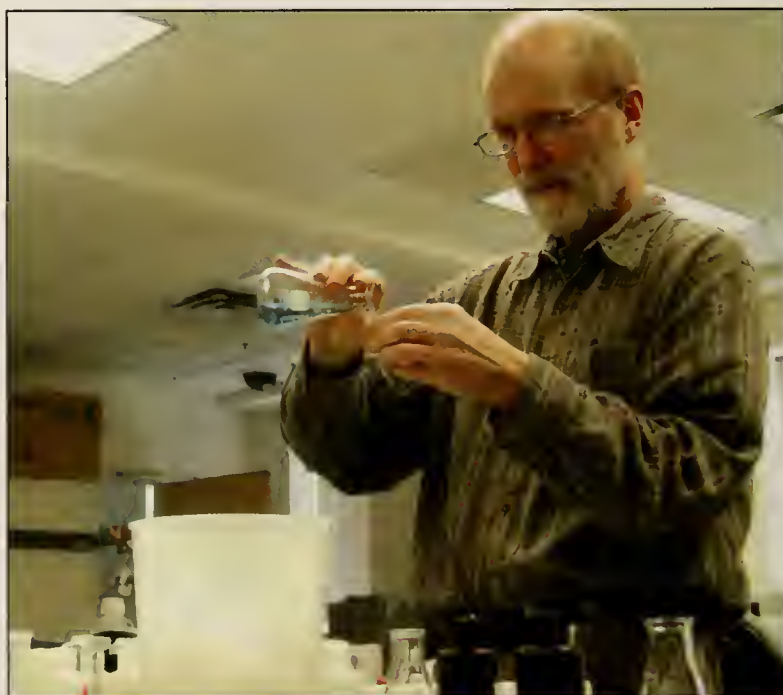
Although it had been nearly 15 years since Teel worked and research in Africa full time, he remained involved in projects in Kenya.

"I keep my toes in Africa too, a little bit," said Teel, referring to a student project involving three seniors who were researching a way to change cow manure into biogas that could be used as a refrigeration system to cool the cow's milk and preserve it for sale.

"Our project has been hard to tackle because of its scope, but Dr. Teel's knowledge is incredibly broad," said senior Dan Levitt. "He brings a great deal of experience from all around the world to the classroom, which is invaluable."

Tang agreed. "His main focus is to have us work, use our minds and to have all of us make a contribution to the community."

**CONDUCTING** an experiment, Professor Wayne Teel tests the ammonia in rainwater samples from the ISAT roof. The test would show the affects of increased ammonia in the Chesapeake Bay.  
*Photo by Natalie Wall*







Katherine Eaton; Psychology; Wilmington, Del.



Raechel Eddy; Psychology; Sterling, Va.



Theresa Egan; Psychology; Hockessin, Del.



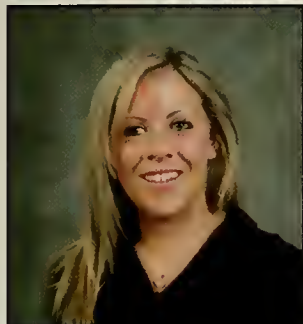
Jennifer Eisenhart; Psychology; Baltimore, Md.



Jeri Emery; Health Sciences; Spotsylvania, Va.



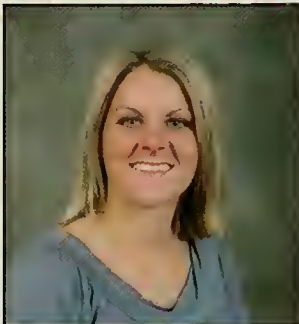
Morgan Eppes; Health Sciences; King William, Va.



Samantha Esnaola; Kinesiology; Fair Lawn, N.J.



Krystle Fanzo; Athletic Training; Pittsburgh, Pa.



Gale Feather; CSD; Fort Washington, Pa.



Allison Forrest; Kinesiology; Chesapeake, Va.



Porshia Foster; Psychology; Virginia Beach, Va.



Christopher Frazier; Psychology; Charlottesville, Va.



Julie Fry; Nursing; Gaithersburg, Md.



Stephanie Gallagher; CSD; Westville, N.J.



Maureen Gately; Dietetics; Catonsville, Md.



Julie Gaven; CSD; Round Hill, Va.



Chris Gesuald; Psychology; Wayne, N.J.



Kayleigh Gomes; Psychology; Centreville, Va.



Meaghan Gould; Health Sciences; Richmond, Va.

Jamie Grandizio; Kinesiology; Baldwin, Md.

Candice Gray; Social Work; King George, Va.



Megan Gray; Kinesiology; Culpepper, Va.

Candice Groseclose; Health Sciences Administration; Urbanna, Va.

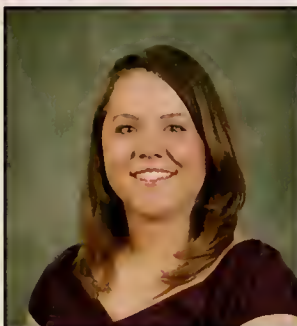
Jodee Gulaskey; Kinesiology; Export, Pa.



Lauren Gulli; Nursing; Roanoke, Va.

Jillian Hady; Health Sciences; York, Pa.

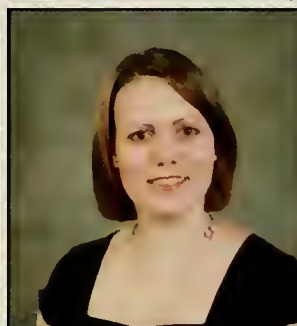
Brittany Hamilton; Dietetics; Bridgewater, Va.



Heather Hahn; Psychology; Ramsey, N.J.

Victoria Hanneman; Nursing; Springfield, Va.

Mesbaul Haque; Computer Science; New York, N.Y.



Catherine Harmon; Health Services Administration; Tappahannock, Va.

Benjamin Hein; Computer Science; Alexandria, Va.

Margaret Hillery; Dietetics; Albany, N.Y.



Jordan Hoffman; Social Work; Matthews, Va.

Whitney Hulock; Health Sciences; Chesapeake, Va.

Brittany Hurlock; Health Services Administration; Lignum, Va.





# What's Your Sign?

By Karlyn Williams

Faith Hill and Jennifer Hudson opened Superbowl XLIII singing "America the Beautiful" and "The Star-Spangled Banner," respectively. Off to the side of the small stage stood a woman rapidly moving her hands in time with the music, using sign language to allow the hearing impaired to participate in pre-game festivities.

Although the interpreter was not a university alumna, students in Communication Sciences and Disorders 420: Introduction to Sign Language (CSD 420) could very well take her place on the football field in the future. Open to all majors, CSD 420 gave students hands-on experience to further understand the skills necessary to communicate with the deaf culture in a dynamic group setting.

While the usual instructor, Kate Belzner, was finishing up her Ph.D dissertation during the spring semester, graduate student Steven Kulsar was assigned to teach the two sections as a part of his graduate assistantship through the audiology program.

"I won't lie, it was daunting to accept the task of teaching two classes of students who really are my peers," said Kulsar. "But after the first day I was settled."

Kulsar had come up with his own teaching theory that if he could make the class laugh at least once during the class period, it was a success, and he would know the students were paying attention.

Brenda Seal, a professor within the CSD program, assigned Kulsar to teach the course because of his knowledge and skills in American Sign Language (ASL). He practiced his skills throughout the community by interpreting in religious and educational settings, as well as serving as a teaching assistant to Rachel Bavister, a deaf woman from Staunton who taught the Sign II class.

"I'm pleased with the dedication and energy Steven has committed to his teaching so far," said Seal. "I expect him to grow as a teacher,



primarily because he has that desire to be successful."

Unlike other language courses, which had a more intimate setting, CSD 420 had a cap of 70 students per section. The large class size generally had no effect on the students, so long as they could see what Kulsar was signing. For Kulsar, however, the tricky assignment was how to give the expressive quizzes to each of the 140 students individually.

"[The expressive quizzes] seem the most intimidating because of the one-on-one interaction with the instructor," said junior Christi Johnson.

Others found the final presentation overwhelming, where students worked in groups of three to five people to develop a cooking show, song or other speech that was preapproved by Kulsar. Then they signed their performances in front of the class.

"The final project seems challenging because you have to memorize the entire presentation and successfully interpret the song or whatever by using at least 50 different signs per person," said junior Hollie Dudrow. "It's a lot of requirements."

The most challenging for the majority of the students was finger-spelling. It was one thing to know the alphabet, but another to be able to recognize the patterns when decoding a word.

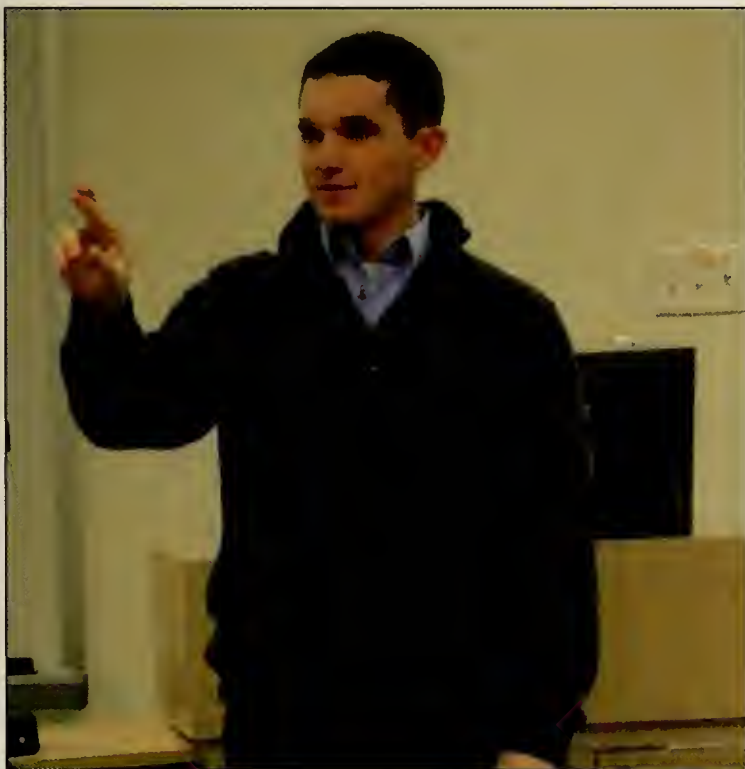
Dudrow and Johnson both said the easiest part was the ability to remember certain signs because they looked similar to what they represented. For Kulsar, the ability to sign the same concept many

different ways in order for the receiver to understand the message was the easiest part.

"This is how I really learned to sign," said Kulsar. "It wasn't through classes, it was by putting myself in situations where I had to communicate effectively."

**SPELLING** out words during Introduction to Sign Language, interim instructor Steven Kulsar signs the letter "A". For the class' final project, the students had to memorize a presentation and interpret a song.

Photo by Donovan Seow





By Sarah Chain

# Practice Makes Perfect

Duke Dog was famous. Most students had visited the James Madison statue on the Quad and Big Jim on East Campus. A Duke family most students had not met, however, included Simon, Similena and Simetta, the high-fidelity patient simulators used by students in the nursing program.

Simon and Similena were really one in the same—an adult patient simulator with anatomically correct changeable parts—but both the adult and infant high-fidelity patient simulators had a motherboard inside, and were fully programmable. They changed physiologically in response to a student's actions, making them excellent teaching tools.

"One of the main ways that nursing education is evolving is by using technology, in particular high-fidelity simulators, to enhance learning," said Professor Jamie Lee. "[The simulators] provide a realistic learning environment which has a cause and effect component that mimics real practice."

Bought as part of a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant five years ago, fall semester was the first time both the two high-fidelity and two mid-fidelity simulators were used to their full capacity. Prior to this year, they were only used as static mannequins.

"Learning how to operate equipment and develop scenarios is very time consuming," said Monty Gross, an associate professor in the nursing program. The company that created and sold the simulators offered an annual two-day programming course so instructors could learn to program the simulators.

Although the program's goal was to use the simulators in the nursing fundamentals course taken by sophomores, as of the spring semester the nursing students only used the high-fidelity patient simulators in their senior year, according to nursing instructor Marjorie Scheikl. Juniors practiced simulations with the



mid-fidelity adult and infant in a task-oriented manner.

"Here's your patient, this is what's going on, you need to start an IV, you need to get a catheter in," explained Scheikl. Senior level simulations required more critical thinking, such as 'This is what's going on, what do you do first,' according to Scheikl.

As the university began accepting more nursing students to adjust to the rising shortage of nurses in the medical field, issues arose in area hospitals concerning space for students' clinical experiences.

"Patients don't stay as long at hospitals either, and we cannot guarantee certain clinical experiences for nursing students," said Scheikl. "Using the simulation lab helps, number one, to relieve some of the clinical space we're looking for, but it also guarantees that our students are going to be exposed to particular patient-case scenarios."

Audio-visual equipment recorded the sessions, which allowed students to debrief and review with one another and their instructors after the simulation was completed.

"During the debriefing, the professor gives us observations and instructions so we learn," said senior Ashley Renkes. "Simulations are about making mistakes so we don't do the same with a live patient."

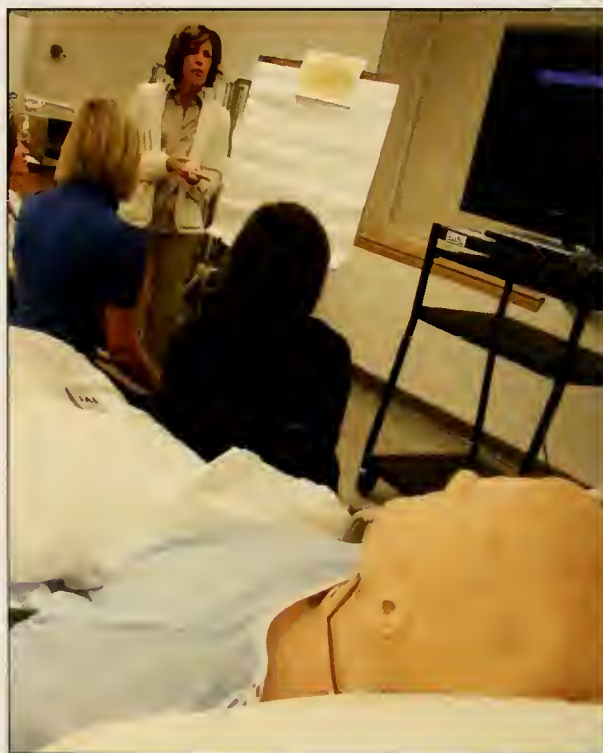
Lee reiterated the point. "As we all know, when we make errors, we remember them better than when we perform correctly."

Student responses to the simulators were generally positive, according to the professors who used them often.

"Students usually say that they feel more prepared for patient care than they did prior to the simulation," said Lee. According to Gross, students asked for more opportunities to work with the simulators in new scenarios.

The greatest benefit, according to Lee, was that "students act like they are enjoying their learning."

**SCRUBS** on, senior Whitney Lynch looks over her infant high-fidelity simulator, while senior Jaclyn Levis reads her directions. The university purchased the simulators as a part of the Health Resources and Services Administration grant. Photo by Natalie Wall



**CIRCLED** around instructor Marjorie Scheikl, students learn how to administer a proper IV both quickly and carefully. Nursing majors later used their newly learned skills and applied them using the patient simulators. Photo by Natalie Wall





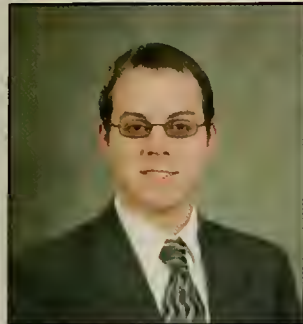
Margaret Inge; Health Sciences; Blackstone, Va.



Kristin Innes; Health Sciences; Wall, N.J.



Will Jacob; Kinesiology; Chesapeake, Va.



Evan Jacobs; Computer Science; Roanoke, Va.



Reece Johnson; ISAT; Toano, Va.



Kacie Johnston; Psychology; Ellicott City, Md.



Nick Kale; Kinesiology; Duxbury, Mass.



Rebecca Kaye; Dietetics; North Merrick, N.Y.



Paula Keough; Health Services Administration; Powhatan, Va.



Anasa King; Psychology; Virginia Beach, Va.



Brenton Kohler; Computer Science; Midlothian, Va.



Jamie Koslosky; Health Sciences; Yardley, Pa.



Jeffrey Kuhland; Kinesiology; Forest, Va.



Sean Lawrence; Computer Science; Boones, Va.



Pamela Lopchinsky; Health Sciences; Westchester, Pa.



Allison Lorenzi; CSD; Chantilly, Va.



Kristin Lovallo; Psychology; Old Greenwich, Conn.



Carissa Lynch; Social Work; Winchester, Va.



Tracey Lytle; Health Sciences; Alexandria, Va.

Christopher Magno; Psychology; Hanover Township, N.J.

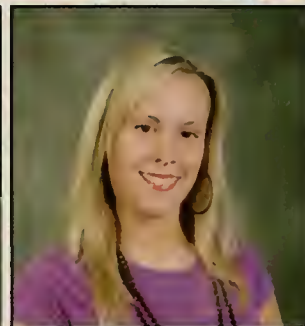
Stephanie Mandra; Health Sciences; Bloomfield, N.J.



Candice Manning; CSD; Salem, Va.

Eva Martinez; Kinesiology; Annandale, Va.

Christine Mason; Psychology; Alexandria, Va.



Erin Mathews; Health Sciences; White Post, Va.

Allen Maxey; Health Sciences; Chester, Va.

Stephanie Miller; Nursing; King George, Va.



Genna Molina; Dietetics; Woodcliff Lake, N.J.

Jennifer Molinaro; Health Sciences; Manasquan, N.J.

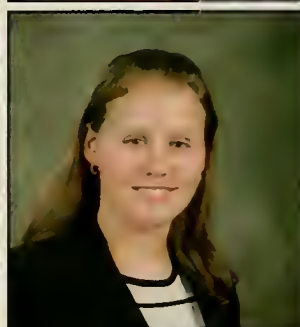
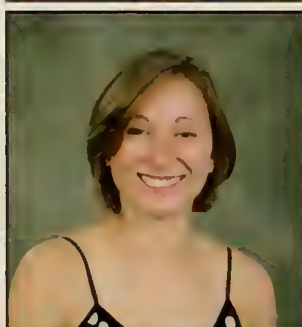
Katherine Moroz; Health Sciences; Warminster, Va.



Kaitlyn Neckar; Nursing; Manassas, Va.

Jenna Nelson; Health Sciences; Manakin Sabot, Va.

Nadia Nowzadi; Health Sciences; Manassas, Va.



Sean O'Laughlin; Nursing; Midlothian, Va.

John Parks; Kinesiology; Williamsburg, Va.

Jessica Paul; Health Sciences; Virginia Beach, Va.



By Nicole Brigagliano

# Lead the Pack

"You make a difference" was written across the white board in Taylor 306. That was the quote Mark Warner, senior vice president of Student Affairs, wrote at the beginning of each class. It was not something that was talked about, but it was something that the students thought about each Tuesday afternoon, setting the scene for Health 439: Leadership (HTH 439).

Offered once a semester, HTH 439 filled up with students almost instantly. The course began at the university 18 years ago, and Warner had taught it for 15 of those years.

The class was composed of 40 students from a variety of majors, ranging from finance to art.

"Some people in the class I have known all four years, some I'm in organizations with and others I haven't had the opportunity to know and I'm excited that this course will give me that opportunity," said senior John Nettles.

Each week, groups of students did 30-minute presentations on different topics. Topics ranged from mentoring to customer service, all of which were related to leadership.

These group presentations allowed for what Warner called "candid discussion," resulting in the openness of the students.

With his strong passion for leadership, HTH 439 enabled Warner to pass along his ideas to others.

"I want to give them leadership tools that they'll be able to use immediately and tools that will service them for a lifetime," said Warner.

Senior Jesse Wright had been looking forward to the class since his sophomore year.

"The content of this class is applicable all the time," said Wright.

But the content was not the only aspect that drew Wright into taking the course. Having Warner as a professor was an important condition. Warner's personality was "magnetic," according to Wright.

"It's like getting new batteries every time you go to class. When you see him you can't help but be inspired," said Wright.

For Warner and students alike, HTH 439 was not a course; it was an experience.

"It's based on creating a community in a classroom setting," said Warner. "It's very interactive in nature." Warner hoped that by the end of the course, students would have learned how important their leadership was in the world and to their friendships.

He also hoped that his students would live out their own mission statements that each of them had created at the beginning of the semester.

"It's a vigorous but fun learning environment," said Warner. "It's absolutely the highlight of my week."



**WARNER** demonstrates his "new eyes" philosophy to the students. Each class was started by sharing adventures and new experiences from the week before. Photo courtesy of Layne Johnson



**SENIORS** Jared Laser and Hillary Stetson present to the class on priority management. The class was split up into groups of four to do consulting presentations for the rest of the class. Photo courtesy of Tara Rife



# Mapping It Out

By Caitlin Harrison

Ever thought that learning to read and create an official map would land you a job within the government? Students and graduates in the geographic science program at the university had a wealth of opportunities to work in certain parts of the government, such as the CIA or the State Department.

The geographic science program had three concentrations: Applied Geographic Information Science (AGIS), Environmental Conservation, Sustainability and Development (ECSD) and Global Studies.

Students in the AGIS concentration were able to get jobs with the government and CIA, while others were able to secure jobs working with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). ECSD majors were educated in land planning and resource conservation. Students were able to get jobs with government agencies like the EPA, the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service. With a degree in global studies, students prepared for jobs within the State Department and for service jobs like the Peace Corps.

"I chose to become a geographic science major because I love the outdoors, being in it and using it correctly," said junior James Lee. "I love learning about the Earth and solving problems and interpreting imagery to make a difference. There's so much out there to solve, and I want to be able to take part in that."

All geographic science students were required to take a core of 14 to 17 credits of geography, with classes like physical geography, thematic cartography and cultural geography.

Sophomore Wesley McGrew took a memorable and unexpectedly fun global food production class.

"I took the class on kind of a whim; I thought taking a farming class was actually kind of funny," said McGrew. "But after the first day I knew the class was going to be awesome."

The class used geography to look at farming techniques all over the world and find alternatives and solutions for economically viable, and environmentally friendly farming.

"The class was so inspirational that I spent the following summer working on an eco-friendly farm," said McGrew. A double major in environmental studies and geographic science, McGrew hoped to eventually get a few internships before trying to find a permanent job.

With a degree in geographic science, students were able to question problems in the environment within both urban and rural areas.

"I hope to find a job where I can be making a positive effort at using the most potential our Earth can give us to help solve the problems that we as humans are trying to fix, whether that may be in conservation work, geographic information systems or government work," said Lee.



**STANDING** at the front of the room, Professor Henry Way leads a cultural geography class. Demographic change and diversity of language were two concepts covered in the course. Photo by Natalie Wall



Brittney Pearce; Health Sciences; Emporia, Va.



Alexander Pennino; Computer Science; Basking Ridge, N.J.



David Peyser; Health Sciences; Lake Grove, N.Y.



Chantell Phillips; ISAT; Staunton, Va.



Brian Picknally; Kinesiology; Orelan, Pa.



John Pierce; Psychology; Alexandria, Va.



Matthew Portner; Psychology; Virginia Beach, Va.



Whitney Powell; CSD; Elkton, Va.



Sophia Rarhai; Nursing; Alexandria, Va.



Kirk Richardson; Athletic Training Education; Salem, Va.



Megan Ridgeway; Kinesiology; Richmond, Va.



AnnMarie Riggelman; Social Work; Harrisonburg, Va.



Jordon Robinson; Kinesiology; Woodstock, Va.



Ashley Rolley; Psychology; Woodbridge, Va.



Brittany Russell; Health Sciences; Parksley, Va.



Kacey Sax; Psychology; Mt. Laurel, N.J.



Heather Schifflett; Kinesiology; Greene County, Va.



Maria Schoen; Nursing; Rochelle, Va.



Whitney Scott; Athletic Training Education; Charlottesville, Va.

Dara Silbert; CSD; Crownsville, Md.

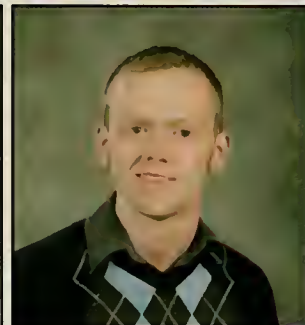
Ashley Smith; Health Sciences; Alexandria, Va.



Ashley Smith; Health Sciences; Alexandria, Va.

Kiera Smith; Communication Studies; Westwood, N.J.

Jonathan Spiker; Computer Science; Harrisonburg, Va.



Sarah Sprouse; CSD; Ashland, Va.

Kendall Stagaard; Psychology; Chatham, N.J.

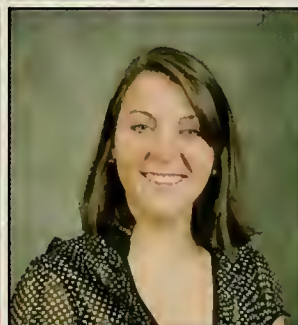
Meagan Stanford; Health Services Administration; Virginia Beach, Va.



Maggie Stark; Psychology; Honolulu, Hawaii

Jessica Stepien; Kinesiology; Manassas, Va.

Shaun Stever; Kinesiology; Falls Church, Va.

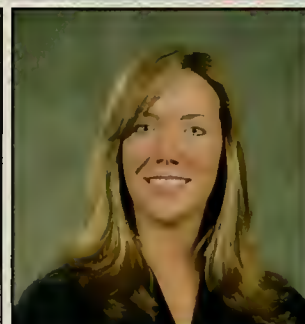


George Strangos; Athletic Training; Hillsborough, N.J.

Chrysta Terenzi; Health Sciences; Huntington, Va.

Casey Terrell; Social Work; Richmond, Va.

Emily Thomas; ISAT; Mukilteo, Wash.



Rebecca Thomas; CSD; Gaithersburg, Md.

Emily Thompson; Dietetics; Schnecksville, Pa.

Stephanie Tigue; Psychology; Flemington, N.J.

Elizabeth Toms; Psychology; Philadelphia, Pa.



# Criminal Minds

By Jen Beers

Despite television's emphasis on DNA testing and other scientific tests in solving crimes, there was more to a crime investigation than time spent in a lab. In Psychology 312: Forensic Psychology (PSYC 312), taught by Professor JoAnne Brewster, students learned the psychological processes outside scientific investigations. There were no labs associated with PYSC 312. Instead, the class was devoted to understanding the study of crime and law that went along with an investigation.

Forensics was relatively new to the study of psychology. The class focused on topics that were crucial to investigating a crime, including jury selection, victimology, eyewitness testimony, child victims and testimony, types of crimes and criminals, serial killers, and legal requirements of expert witnesses.

"The nature of psychology is to be very research-oriented," said senior Jessica Raines, a former tutor for the course. Forensic psychology used the scientific method to study crime and the law by exploring the causes and effects related to an investigation.

Senior Erin Ovitt said, "The class focuses on how psychology has a role in our justice system, so it was really about law and psychology."

Students were taught how to evaluate claims and make sure they were based on sound reasoning. The effect of the public's opinion towards trials, criminals and crimes were studied as well.

"It assumes that the students have little previous knowledge about the court system, so the class

is taught emphasizing how the system works," said Ovitt.

Most students who took the class were psychology majors with a criminal justice minor but it was open for non-psychology majors as well. Brewster taught the course through lectures and PowerPoint presentations, along with movie clips relevant to the current discussion. Guest speakers were also popular, including members of the Air Force Office of Special Investigation or former students who had spent time working in prisons as counselors.

Students interested in forensics psychology had many career opportunities to look into after graduation. Psychological researchers could act as expert witnesses on topics ranging from the reliability of an eyewitness testimony to the mental state of a defendant. Forensic psychologists performed evaluations used for competency to stand trial and for insanity competency. Other possible careers included counseling for prisoners.

Through the course, students learned to link theories of human behavior and human nature with science, further increasing the chance that future crime investigations could be solved successfully.



**STUDENTS** of Professor Brewster listen intently to her lecture. Photo by Natalie Wall





# Healthy Habits

By Jen Beers



**LEADING** a children's aerobic class, senior Alison Stamper promotes the development of a healthy lifestyle at a local elementary school. PROMotion members worked with people of all different ages. Photo by Megan Mori

School, Plains Elementary School and Harrisonburg High School.

Sports teams and Greek organizations also took advantage of PROMotion. In addition, PROMotion could be found at a variety of booth fairs and fundraisers such as Kids' Night Out, a weekly program across America that provided kids with a safe and healthy environment.

To get an event started, instructors began with icebreakers to set up a warm and friendly environment for the group. Participants then chose among yoga, kickboxing and aerobics. They ended with a social or personal wellness portion consisting of a game or lesson.

To become involved in PROMotion, a student had to first be a UREC employee. More than half of the UREC staff took an interest in joining PROMotion.

"Getting involved with PROMotion has given me a great outlet to give back and to also learn about my own life," said senior Jessica Myers. "We have a great time putting programs together, and more importantly, building relationships with some wonderful people inside and outside the organization."

Members worked hard to make a difference in people's lives locally and globally. Whether it was traveling to the Bahamas each year to lead programs at an elementary school in Nassau, or running programs in Harrisonburg, PROMotion helped its members grow as individuals while helping others.

**'LISTENING'** is the name of the game as group fitness instructors work with children in UREC during Kids' Night Out. The event was an opportunity for the children to climb the rock wall, go swimming and do arts and crafts.

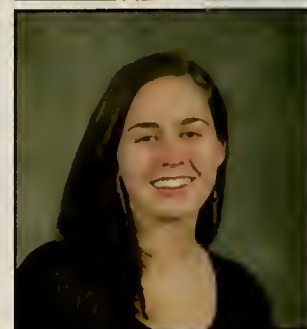
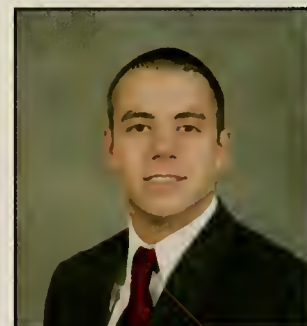
Photo by Megan Mori



Peers Reaching Others Through Motion (PROMotion) was a volunteer organization made up of about 20 active University Recreation Center (UREC) group fitness instructors. The group fitness instructors involved with PROMotion encouraged a healthy lifestyle through programs that promoted wellness and fitness.

PROMotion focused on emotional and social wellness and healthy lifestyles, according to senior Alison Stamper. In order to achieve this wellness, the PROMotion staff stressed the importance of balance in a person's life, both social and personal.

Seniors Stephanie Garrett and Kristen McGoldrick, co-presidents of PROMotion, set up programs at retirement communities and schools. Contacts associated with the organization included Sunnyside Retirement Community and schools such as John Wayland Elementary







Matthew Troum; Health Sciences; Ocean View, N.J.



Allison Truglio; ISAT; Franklin Square, N.Y.



Shelby Trumble; Health Sciences; Rockville, Va.



Paul Tucker; Computer Science; Virginia Beach, Va.



Jeffrey Turner; ISAT; Prafftown, N.C.



Diana Van Hook; Health Sciences; Williamsburg, Va.



Alexandra Vanaman; ISAT; Wallingford, Pa.



Christina Vandenberg; Athletic Training Education; State College, Pa.



Larissa Via; Geographic Science; Bristol, Va.



Lauren Walls; Health Sciences; Berlin, N.J.



Melissa Walls; CSD; Harrisonburg, Va.



Katherine Waybright; Nursing; Richomond, Va.



Matthew Wetherbee; Kinesiology; Marblehead, Mass.



Whitney White; Psychology; Centreville, Va.



Shane Whitehead; Kinesiology; Annville, Pa.



Tara Widgins; Health Sciences; Chesapeake, Va.



Kayla Williams; Dietetics; Lynchburg, Va.



Danielle Willox; Kinesiology; Stevensville, Md.

Kelly Workman; Psychology; Harrisonburg, VA

Marie Zambeno; Psychology; New Castle, Del.





Photo by Natalie Wall

College  
&





Engineering Program 240

CHEM 341-342:

Organic Chemistry 242

College of Science

Mathematics





# A Method to the Madness

By Sarah Chain

Housing the departments of biology, chemistry, geology and environmental science, mathematics and physics, the College of Science and Mathematics (CSM) provided ample opportunities for more than 1,000 students to get their hands dirty. With undergraduates working towards employment in research, industry, education and government, CSM promoted active learning experiences and collaborative research programs with faculty.

CSM also offered secondary education programs in biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics, encouraging students to combine their passions for math and the sciences with an eagerness to teach others.

Students interested in pursuing a degree in secondary education got a head start through the Science and Math Learning Center, a tutorial facility that employed more than 20 undergraduate students to assist students "in their application and mastery of the concepts found in first-year math and science courses," according to its Web site.

"Every day we have students come in confused about what they are learning," said junior Teri Swinson, a tutor at the center. "Sometimes they just need a little extra explanation, but more often, they need support that they can do math. Most understand how to do it, but they do not believe in their own capabilities."

The college also continued its participation in the National Science Foundation's Research Experiences for Undergraduates, a summer

research program for students studying in the fields of science, engineering and mathematics. Working in groups of two under a faculty mentor, undergraduates spent eight weeks in June and July researching concepts ranging from organic chemistry to number theory to molecular biology.

"We stress learning science by doing science," said David Brakke, dean of CSM.

In the physics department, faculty and students witnessed the opening of the John C. Wells Planetarium to the public in the fall. Located in Miller Hall, the planetarium offered free shows on Saturdays during the academic year. Twenty-minute films were followed by a short talk that provided visitors with information about constellations, planets and comets that may have been visible at that time.

Whether the college was interacting with the community or developing the scientists and mathematicians of tomorrow, collaboration between students and faculty was key.

"We deliver quality instruction in small class sizes," said Brakke, "where faculty are committed to excellence in undergraduate education. *Information compiled*

*from jmu.edu/catalog/08*



STUDENTS  
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...on ...p ...  
...A ...r ...

## Dean's Office

David Brakke, Dean

Judith Dilts, Associate Dean

Robert Hanson, Assistant Dean

Michael O'Neill, Technology Coordinator

Brenda Barker, Administrative Assistant

## Departments

Biology

Chemistry

Geology

Mathematics

Physics

## CSM by the Numbers

Most Popular Majors:

Biology (821)

Chemistry (171)

Mathematics (150)

Full-Time Undergraduates: 1,256

Part-Time Undergraduates: 45



**KNEELING** so he can see the graduated cylinder at eye-level, a student measures the appropriate amount in his organic chemistry lab. Chemistry was often a student's most difficult course in his or her undergraduate career.  
*Photo by Kim Lofgren*





# Next Generation

By Lianne Palmatie

To meet the demands of maintaining the educational environment and staying competitive among other Virginia colleges and universities, the academic roster was expanded to include an engineering program focused on sustainability. The program was run under the School of Engineering, separate from the other six colleges within the university.

"Sustainability is something that we as a global society need to focus on before we jeopardize our planet," said freshman Peter Epley. "An engineering degree will help me to have the skills to design some of the technologies of tomorrow and keep myself marketable in today's job market."

With a broader approach than rival programs, the Bachelor of Science degree encompassed traditional engineering training as well as business and communication skills. The class of 2012 was the first to be admitted in the introductory year, with plans for taking transfer students in 2010.

"JMU has been growing for many years now and in order to stay competitive with the other Virginia universities, I think JMU needed to add an engineering degree," said Epley. "While the program is very new, I believe it has a lot of potential to compete with UVA and Virginia Tech because of its non-traditional approach and focus."

The non-conventional approach suited the new students, who were anxious to pursue the new major.

"I have always been good at mathematics and science," said freshman Stefan Jobe. "When I was young somebody told me that I would make a perfect engineer because I am good with putting things together."

A base in mathematics and science was important, but the program also focused largely on the future and how the field was developing.

"Engineering as a degree is changing," said freshman Michelle Beatty. "The old engineering curriculum is being revised to incorporate

communication and business. [As a new program], JMU can make the best, most updated program available without having to worry about university politics."

With plans for the program in constant development, students and faculty of the new school had the opportunity to explore possibilities such as adding an option to minor in engineering and inclusion of real-world implementation, which would prepare students for the Fundamentals of Engineering pre-licensure exam.

"I believe this program is going to be the cutting-edge school everyone looks to as a model," said Beatty.

**SPECTATORS** watch as engineering students and instructors catapult a stuffed Duke Dog over the festival lawn. The engineering program focused on creativity and life-long learning. Photo courtesy of Kenan Picasa







David Berry III; Chemistry; Norfolk, Va.



Kelly Beyer; Mathematics; Manassas, Va.



Joy Binda; Geology; Manorville, N.Y.



Gina Costanzo; Mathematics; Manassas, Va.



Lisa Derosé; Geology; Basking Ridge, N.J.



John Drakejr; Biology; Richmond, Va.



Gina Fredericks; Biology; Wanaque, N.J.



Karl Gorzelnik; Biology; Fairfax, Va.



Lynn Grubb; Statistics; Chesapeake, Va.



Kerri Guth; Biology; Herndon, Va.



Cindy Gutierrez; Biology; Fairfax, Va.



Jennifer La; Mathematics; Harrisonburg, Va.



Lauren Lindros; Mathematics; Harrisonburg, Va.



Brittany Lorenti; Biology; Trumbull, Conn.



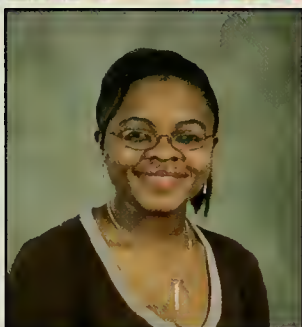
Molly McHarg; Mathematics; Fairfax Station, Va.



Jackie Milam; Mathematics; Penn Laird, Va.



Elizabeth Napoda; Biology; Fairlawn, N.J.



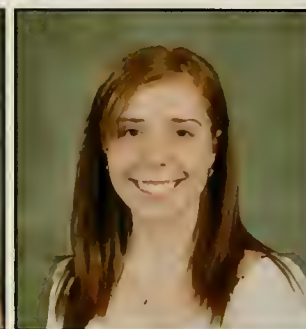
Sheila Ngongbo; Biology; Fairfax, Va.



Andrew Owen; Biology; Williamsburg, Va.

Beth Quinton; Mathematics; Stafford, Va.

Dena Restaino; Biology; Randolph, N.J.



Courtney Sullivan; Biology; Massapequa Park, N.Y.

Quang Tran; Biology; Centreville, Va.

Lok-Kun Tsui; Physics; Richmond, Va.



Aaron Vitiello; Biology; Richmond, Va.

Daniel Wilberger; Physics; White Post, Va.

Ryan Wilding; Mathematics; Herndon, Va.



Allen Wolford Jr; Biology; Harrisonburg, Va.



**GATHERING** supplies for an experiment, sophomores Amy Merrill and Melissa Reitano measure out their chemicals. Students worked in great detail, applying what they learned in lectures during their lab periods.

*Photo by Kim Lofgren*

# Mission Impossible

By Casey Smith

Chemistry 341-342: Organic Chemistry (CHEM 341-342) became a deal breaker for many students. Required for chemistry and biology majors and students hoping to start a career in the field of medicine, the two-part class was offered during the fall, spring and summer and proved frustrating for many students.

"Many of my friends did not pass the class and decided to switch majors or concentrations," said junior Rose DiPeppi. Organic chemistry was not a requirement for health science majors, but DiPeppi had to take it as a pre-professional requirement. She passed both parts the first time around.

"It was amazing to see the amount of people start the semester and then see how many were left at the end," said senior Theresa Decoursey. "It was also interesting to see the turnover rate between semesters." Decoursey passed the first part and had to retake the second part, like many other students.

Students were not sure what to expect when they began the course, which increased the high dropout rate.

"Organic was more interesting than general chemistry," said DiPeppi. "However, it was a lot of memorization and thinking outside of the box. It was not as math-based and you had to be able to use bits of everything you learned to make a final project."

Even if students arrived in class with a wide range of knowledge in the field of chemistry, the pace of the course and the amount of information presented in such a short time period overwhelmed many students.



**SAFETY** glasses on, sophomores Elizabeth Hubbard and Amy Merrill review their notes near the end of class. Organic chemistry was a six-credit course that lasted two semesters.  
*Photo by Kim Lofgren*

"Everyone struggled," said senior Danny Dales. "Most of the class got too behind." Dales did not pass his first time around, but retook both parts in the summer and said he found it easier to concentrate on the material without the distraction of other classes.

With so much to cover in so little time, students had to find the most efficient way to study after being in class for two and a half hours per week.

"I spent two hours a day studying and before tests I would study for about 25 hours," said DiPeppi. "The dry erase boards in the library were amazing for group study sessions. The best study method was to get a group of people together to study and work through problems. Also, my teacher gave me problem sets each week that really helped and prepared me for the tests."

"Flashcards were essential in this class," said Dales. "I also grouped similar concepts onto big note sheets which helped too. I also bought an organic chemistry study book. I used the 'Organic Chemistry Demystified' book and it helped immensely."

Although some students found the course nearly impossible, with a lot of work and persistence, students made it through. The class also proved to others that biology or chemistry just was not the major for them.

"No matter how hard you work, you may not get the grade you want," said DiPeppi. "However, if you push yourself really hard and don't let a grade put you down, the class is possible."








Photo by Natalie Wall





THEA 333:

Costume Design 248

College of Visual

& Performing Arts





# Talent Show

By Joanna Brenner

The College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) emphasized artistic expression as an integral part of a college student's career, with degrees in art, art history, music, theatre and dance. With 1,124 undergraduate students, the college fostered close friendships among classmates.

"I love being part of the CVPA because I get to be a part of such a tight-knit group," said sophomore Bria Jahrling. "The girls I dance with aren't just my classmates and my friends... they're like my family."

According to its Web site, the college aimed for its students to support cultural, aesthetic and intellectual diversity and to foster interdisciplinary exchange.

A brand new performing arts center was also under construction, to be completed in 2010. The new building would add "complete, world-class facilities" to the college, according to its Web site.

The School of Art and Art History offered degrees in studio art, graphic design, interior design, industrial design, art education and art history. The Madison Art Collection gallery, located in the Festival Conference and Student Center, contained more than 3,000 art and cultural objects from the Neolithic era through the 20th century, and was only one of the four art galleries provided

for students in the school.

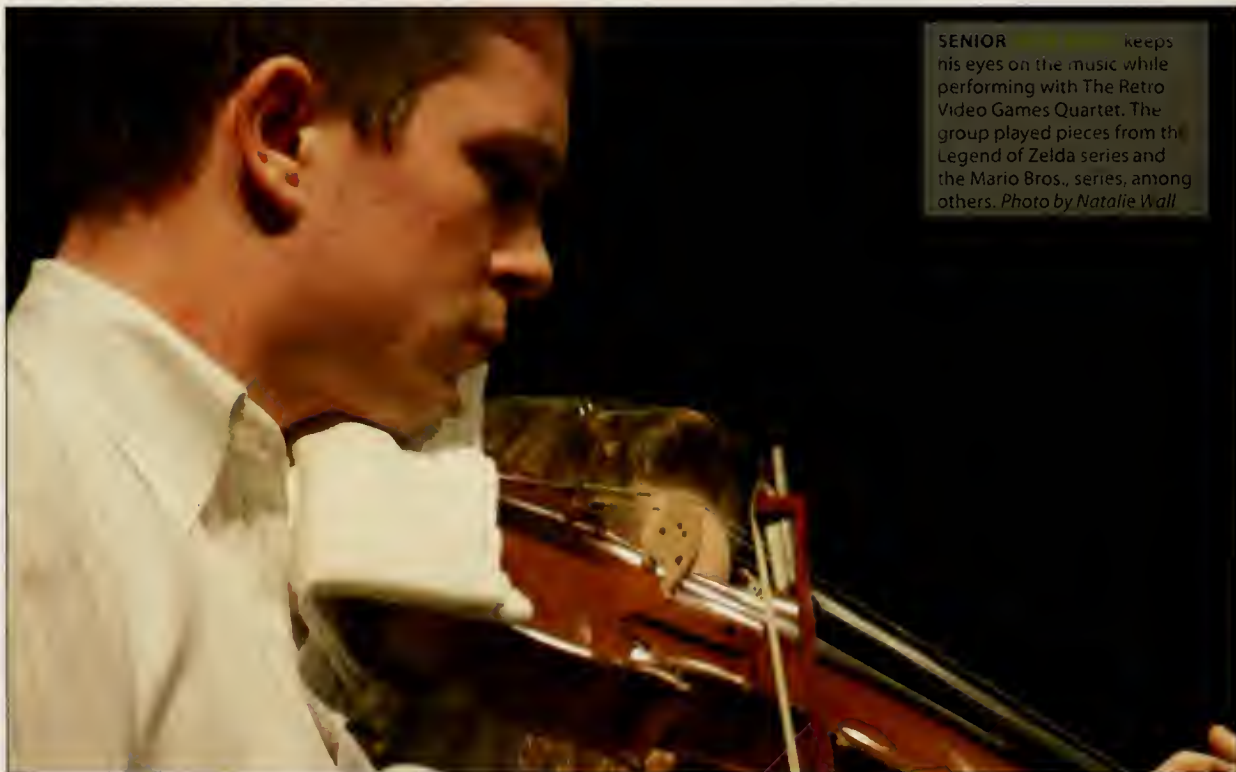
Students in the School of Music could study brass, piano, strings, voice, woodwinds, jazz, ensembles, music education, musicology/ethnomusicology, music industry and theory/composition.

While the Music Building on the Quad, which opened in 1989, was the central facility for the advancement of musical education, the new performing arts center would also house a large ensemble rehearsal hall, as well as additional practice rooms, classrooms and office space, according to its Web site.

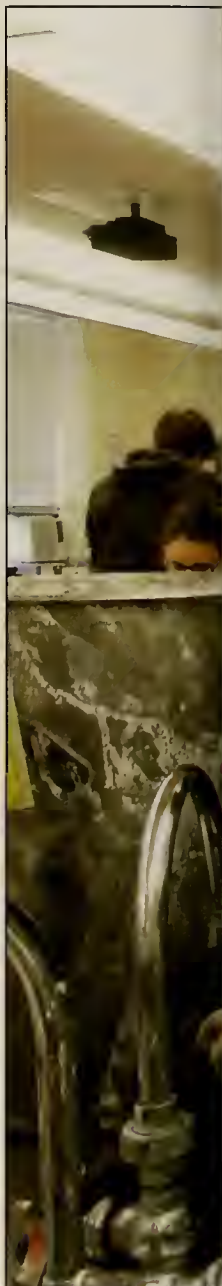
Due to its small size, the CVPA made teacher/student relationships more personal, which made the learning environment more constructive for many students.

"The dance program faculty really know us personally and are important not only as teachers, but as mentors," said senior Ilana Burger. "They take real personal interest in our lives and our futures, and their one-on-one guidance is invaluable."

*Information compiled from [jmu.edu/catalog/08](http://jmu.edu/catalog/08)*



**SENIOR** [Name] keeps his eyes on the music while performing with The Retro Video Games Quartet. The group played pieces from the Legend of Zelda series and the Mario Bros. series, among others. Photo by Natalie Wall



## Dean's Office

George Sparks, Dean

Marilou Johnson, Associate Dean

Nancy Gray, Administrative Assistant

## Departments

Art & Art History

Music

Theatre & Dance

## CVPA by the Numbers

Majors:

Art (502)

Music (410)

Theatre & Dance (181)

Full-Time Undergraduates: 1,080

Part-Time Undergraduates: 44



**COOLING** off metals in the sink, students prepare to create their projects in ART 225: Beginning Metal and Jewelry. Students were assigned three major projects: an arm piece, an ear piece and a ring. *Photo by Natalie Wall*





# Dressing the Part

By Katie Thisdell

Designing a costume was not just about putting clothes on an actor. Designers researched everything about a show, from the time period to a character's motivation and personality. Theatre 333: Costume Design (THEA 333) taught students the intricacies involved in this research.

"It is kind of a combination of a studio art class; a literature class, since we're analyzing text; and then lots of psychology to learn about characters," explained Professor Pam Johnson.

The course, limited to 15 students, was offered once a year. While students did not build costumes in the course, they learned everything about designing costumes for any type of performance.

Johnson emphasized how important collaboration was in theatre, with costume design just one piece of the larger art form.

"The costume that is worn by the actor has to allow the actor to function and serve the character, it has to serve the director's concept, and then it is in front of something that someone else designs, standing in light that someone else designs," said Johnson.

The course began by comparing fashion and design. Students then examined basic design principles like color theory. Johnson also taught drawing techniques so even students without an art background could design.

"I don't really consider myself an artist in the drawing and painting sense," said senior Brittanny Krause. "But Pam would have us turn in sketches every other week to improve our drawing skills, which really comes in handy when you want to sketch out rough designs and silhouettes for projects that you're working on."

An important part of the course was researching scripts, history, characters and other aspects of performances.

"This makes the course more theoretical, but the goals are to make students really appreciate the complexity and subtleties that go into design, and really make them keener observers of their own world," said Johnson.

Senior Anna Neubert took the course in the spring of 2007. "The class was a lot of work, I'll say that first," Neubert said. "But it was fun!"

Half the course was about figure drawing and working with watercolors, while the other part was reading scripts. "For example, how to interpret what the playwright provides through the text about what the character is wearing," said Neubert. "Sometimes they come right out and say 'What a lovely blue dress you're wearing, Lily.' But other times you have to decide what they would likely be wearing depending on their personality, as well as the season, the situation, the wealth, etc."

Using what they had learned, students then adapted a play to another setting. They used well-known actors to develop the project.

"The projects were fun and creative," said Neubert. "Our final project was a production of 'Twelfth Night,' but our imaginary cast was the characters of Pierce Brosnan, Halle Barry, Liam Neeson and Owen Wilson. It was really challenging, but loads of fun."

Krause added that this hypothetical production was "a great thing to have in your portfolio."

Neubert believed the skills in the course would help her future career. "It's hard to watch a play or movie now without trying to figure out the designer's motivations for their color choices and costume designs," she said.

The course helped both Krause and Neubert, who designed costumes for plays at the university. Though Krause said the February production of "Ubu Roi" at Theatre II had many characters, she used skills from Johnson's class to design their costumes.

"To be a costume designer you really have to have a high appreciation for theatre and a complete understanding of the show you're working for," she said.



**DISPLAYING** their costume sketches for their peers to critique, junior Kristen Siegert and senior Lauren Ramsey, tack up their designs. Ideas for sketches originated from aspects including a character's personality, the era of the show and the setting of the scene. Photo by Natalie Wall







Margaret Bavolack; Theatre And Dance; Rockville, Va.



Jared Bookbinder; Music; Springfield, Va.



Gillian Bowman; Studio Art; Ruckersville, Va.



Catherine Gresham; Art History; Ladysmith, Va.



Elayne Harris; Music; Fredericksburg, Va.



Erica Hays; Studio Art; French Creek, W.Va.



Addison Howell; Music; Williamsburg, Va.



Laura Hurley; Art History; Marchfield, Mass.



Anne Lindsay; Studio Art; Charlottesville, Va.



Jessica Maggi; Studio Art; Sterling, Va.



Michael Miragliotta; Music; Bridgewater, N.J.



Elizabeth Morgan; Music; Harrisonburg, Va.



Ryan O'Donnell; Studio Art; Clifton, Va.



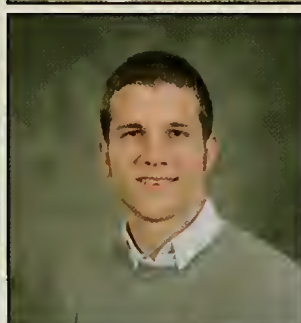
Susan Pearce; Art History; Winchester, Va.



Sheri Powell; Studio Art; Centreville, Va.



Meredith Schultz; Music Education; Farmingville, N.Y.



Jacqueline Stader; Studio Art; Springfield, Va.



Audrey Stiebel; Studio Art; Mechanicsville, Va.

Steven Stiles; Studio Art; Dumfries, Va.

Patrick White; Music Industry; Falls Church, Va.



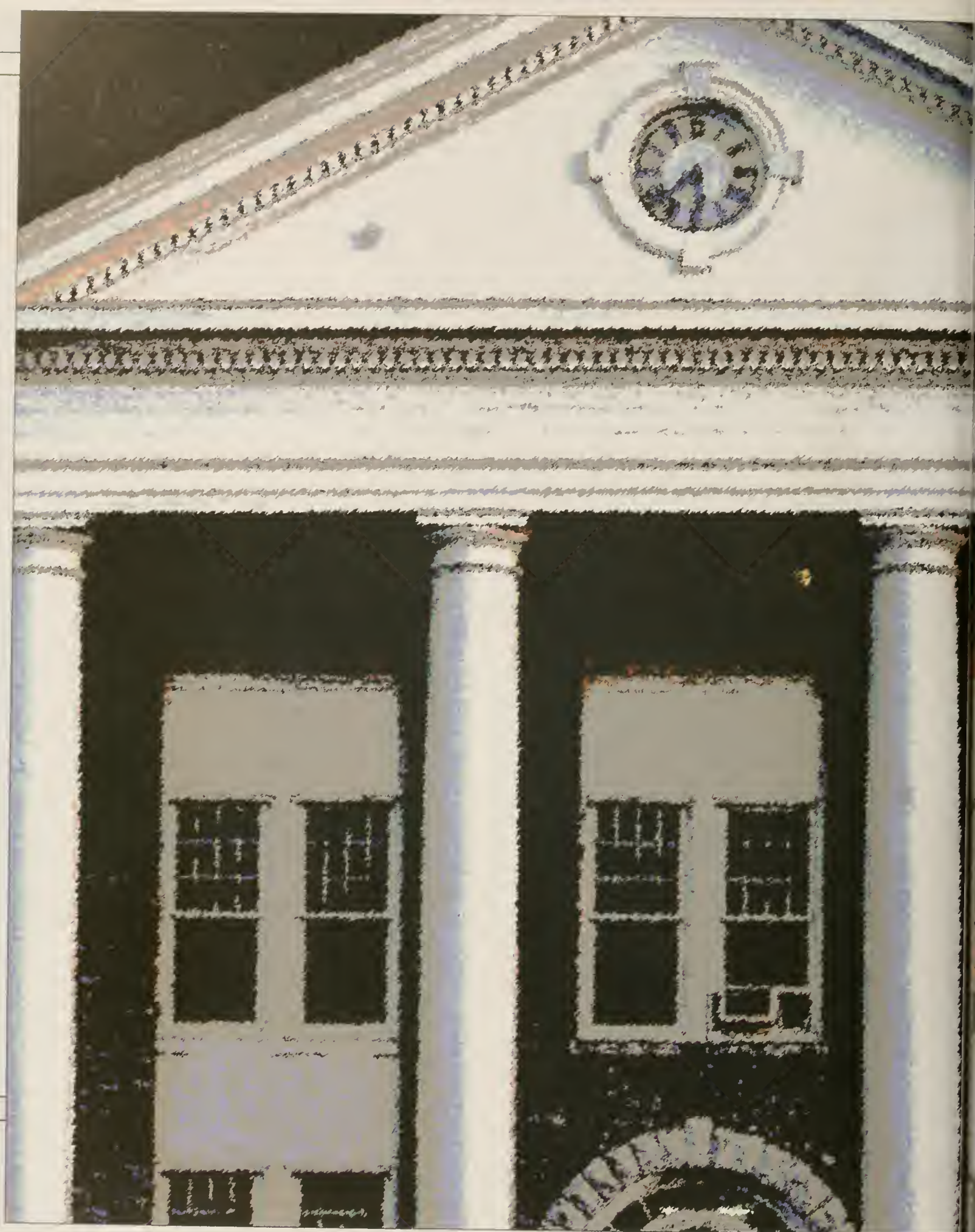


Photo by Natalie Vviki



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Underclassmen

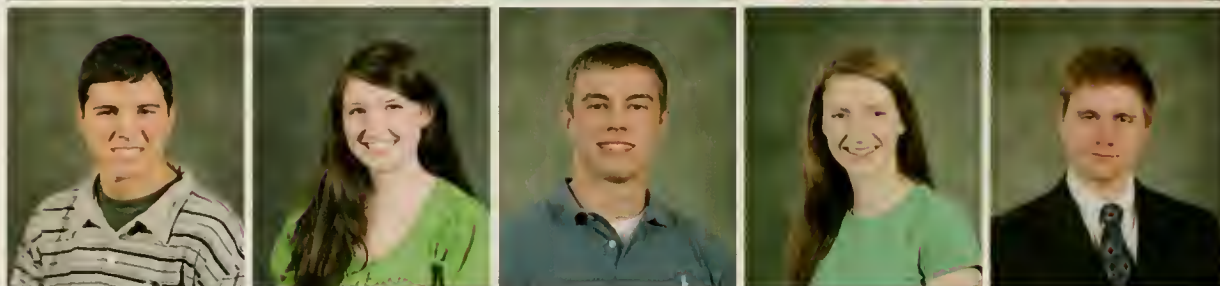




Kristina Alff  
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Timothy Austen  
Angela Barbosa  
Caroline Blanzaco



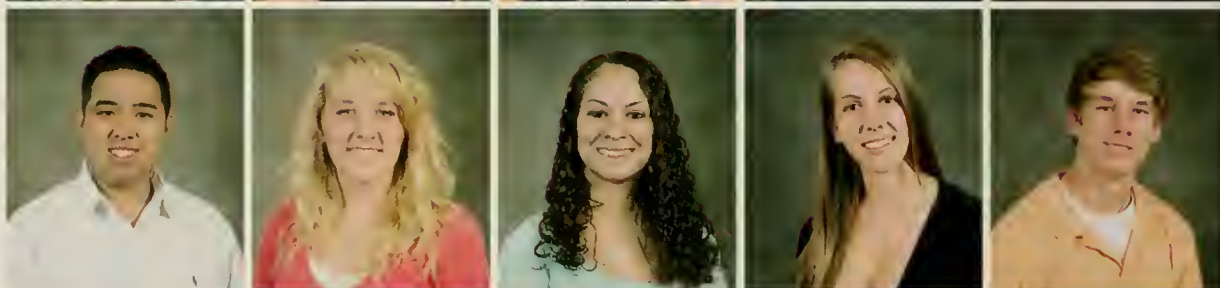
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Erin Brooks  
Mark Caplinger  
Sarah Chain  
Jason Clancy



Sean Combs  
Donna Culver  
Amy Curtis  
Brittany Douglas  
Stephanie Edwards



Timothy Finney  
Catherine Fitzmaurice  
Alexandra Foundas  
Kathleen French  
Hunter Gallalee



Eleanor Garretson  
Kelly Gatewood  
Cora Gnegy  
Kaitlyn Gordon  
Chelsea Gutshall



Amy Gwaltney  
David Hall  
John Haney  
Henry Harper  
Kristy Harris



Emma Hershey  
Steven Hildebrand  
Kristyn Holc  
Kathryn Holmes  
Sara Ibrahim





# Finding Your Way

By Ariel Spengler

Move-in day could be a terrifying event for freshmen. In a university of approximately 17,000 students that increased in numbers each year, the move intimidated both new students and parents. Traffic, lines for the elevators, new roommates and saying goodbye to parents added to the stress.

"I think I cried a little bit in the beginning of the year," said Arielle Kook, a freshman from Columbia, Md. "It was incredibly overwhelming to be totally on my own."

Kook and her fellow classmates took on the daunting responsibility of finding their places among new people and organizations, finding solace in getting involved.

"I have really plugged in with some groups that are like second families to me," said Kook, citing Intervarsity, an on-campus Christian organization; Into Hymn, an all-girl Christian a cappella group; and the crew that worked on the musical, "City of Angels." Different groups helped her not to get lost in the crowd.

"Getting involved has really made the campus seem smaller to me," said Kook. "I have come to realize how much JMU has to offer."

Freshman BJ Gruber had similar success his first year by joining the university's drama club, The Stratford Players.

"Stratford made my year what it was," said Gruber. "I've done shows with them, done strike with them, and had class with the people involved with Stratford every day."

Gruber's favorite memory of the year was his role in his first university show, "Anyone Can Whistle."

"It was great," said Gruber. "It's been an awesome experience so far."

Kook had wonderful memories of the campus as well.

"I have really enjoyed simply being able to get lunch or dinner with people I am living with and going to school with," said Kook. "It's so different from anything I experienced when I lived at home."

Her bad memories, however, involved being when her roommate left her for the weekend.

"She's only done it twice, but it's rough when there's no one in the room with you," said Kook.

Kook was also afraid of getting lost in the crowd during classes.

"I expected huge lecture halls and professors that didn't really care about you," said Kook. "But my French class had 15 people in it. I don't feel like my classes are impersonal anymore."

Gruber had a different, albeit popular complaint.

"Exam week," shuddered Gruber.

Although the exams were often difficult, the classes turned out to be much better than expected.

"My major took a little more work than I expected," said Gruber, a musical theatre major. "But it was totally worth it."

Besides studying for exams and rushing to club meetings, undergraduates had to find fun activities during down time.

"I have gone to UREC classes," said Kook. "It's amazing. The facilities are beautiful and I love how it makes you want to work out!"

For Gruber, it was the entertainment.

"I saw some of the comedians," he said. "It was a great alternative to partying on the weekend."

With so many friends and activities to explore, the university quickly felt like home for many.

"The people are so fun and supportive here," said Kook. "I know I am going to grow both as a person and a student at JMU."



**ENJOYING** the beginning of their weekend, freshmen Sally Cambell, Brittany Cassandra and Kelsey Souleret spend a Friday night at You Made It! The do-it-yourself pottery studio proved a popular off-campus attraction for underclassmen. Photo by Natalie Wall





# Connecting Cultures

By Jen Beers

Sent to Sierra Leone in the '70s as a Peace Corps volunteer, Professor Joseph Opala never imagined he would spend 17 years in the small country off the western coast of Africa. Entrenched in research, Opala filmed two documentaries and arranged a homecoming with descendants of slaves taken away from their homes hundreds of years ago, putting together a connection that would change the lives of Sierra Leonians and African-Americans alike.

Opala graduated from the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree in anthropology and a passion for studying the history of Native Americans. Soon after graduation he joined the Peace Corps and was sent to Sierra Leone, where he spent three years as a volunteer. Opala had some difficulty getting used to the different culture at first, but by the third year, he fell in love with the country.

During his time in Africa, Opala developed an interest in researching the slave trade and the history of Bunce Island, a slave castle on the coast of Sierra Leone. His dedication to his research allowed him to make significant discoveries.

Through extensive research, he found that most slaves from Bunce Island had been taken over to plantations in coastal South Carolina and Georgia, known as the Gullah region. African-Americans living in this area were able to trace their ancestry back to families in Sierra Leone. This exciting find became known as the "Gullah Connection." His connection and research began appearing in school textbooks.

"My life is about bringing scholarship together with community service and making history relevant so people can use it in their lives," said Opala.

Sierra Leone's government then used Opala's information to increase heritage tourism.

Opala gave briefings in D.C., did interviews with CNN and wrote articles for

*The Washington Post*. As a professor in the history department at the university, he also took a liking to the students and the small city of Harrisonburg.

Students related to the material he taught and many traveled overseas. They also took an interest in the Peace Corps, which helped the university rank as one of the top 25 colleges in corps recruitment.

Opala contributed to the university by creating honors courses that related to his studies in Africa. Some of these classes focused on African-American history and culture through film, African language and storytelling, and the history of slavery.

He also worked together with students at the National Museum of Natural History to create an exhibit about his research that made it to the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago.

Opala reached his students through his knowledge and the use of storytelling.

"He could lecture for every single class and I would be enthralled to sit there," said junior Sarah Chain.

His lectures showcased his thorough comprehension of African culture.

"The most interesting part of the class was his experiences," said freshman Jessica Jones. "If he taught every subject I would choose him for a teacher every time."

**GATHERING** oral history research on Tasso Island, Professor Joseph Opala speaks with Chief Alimamy Rakka and a Sierra Leonian man from the island. Tasso Island was just half a mile from Bunce Island, so many villagers who Opala spoke with were descendants of men and women who had worked at the slave castle. Photo courtesy of Joseph Opala



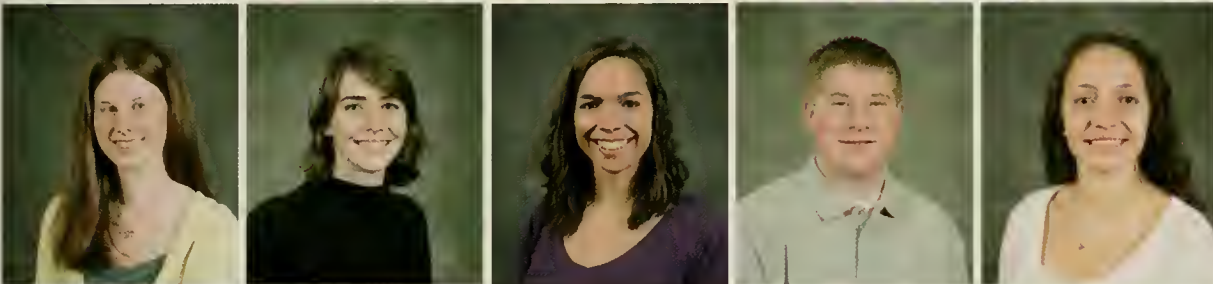




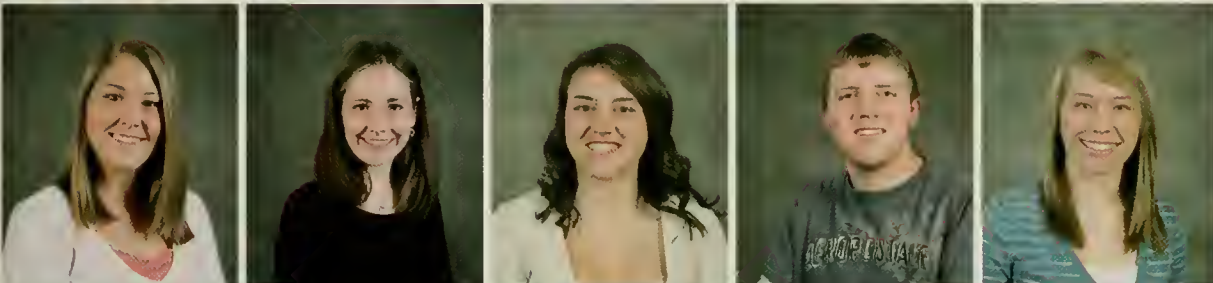
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Sean Jenkins  
Matthew Johnson  
Donna Jones  
Jacqueline Kurecki



Phuong La  
Stephen Lee  
Telmyr Lee  
Yuri Lee  
Bethany Magee



Cara McCabe  
Katherine McKinney  
Ashley McPike  
Andrew Midgett  
Kate Mordecai



Katherine Morton  
Sarah Newlon  
Katherine Nowell  
Lane O'Brien  
Kelley Oliver



Emily Phillips  
Matthew Phillips  
Kaylene Posey  
Cassandra Potler  
Caitlin Price



Maggie Ramseyer  
Jillian Regan  
Alyssa Richardson  
Lucy Romeo  
Amanda Scheffer

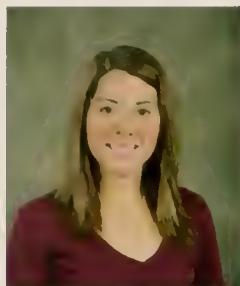


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Christine Sparrow  
Kisha Stokes

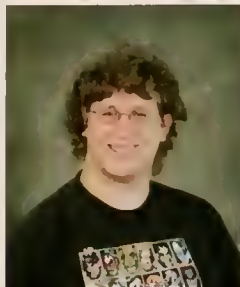




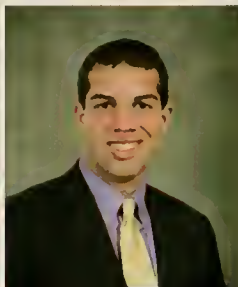
Emily Strickler  
Brittnie Sykes  
Stephanie Synoracki  
Stephen Taylor  
Katie Thisdell



Joshua Thompson  
Kira Thompson  
Jennifer Turner  
Aubrey Tuttle  
Chelsea Verdin



Lexi Vlasho  
Brock Wallace  
Sarah Ward  
Jessica Weaver  
Lindsay Weida



Bryce Williams  
Karlyn Williams  
Miranda Williams  
Sam Williams  
Anjerika Wilmer



Sarah Young





# Expanding Networks

By Casey Smith

Underclassmen

When first-year students began their college careers looking for extracurricular activities to become involved in, Make Your Mark On Madison (MYMOM) was often one of their top choices. MYMOM was a student-run leadership program that gave students the opportunity to listen to keynote speakers and interact with their peers every Monday night during the fall semester.

"The purpose of the MYMOM program was for participants [freshmen and sophomores] and leadership counselors [juniors and seniors] to gain insight into their own personal values, leadership styles, facilitation techniques, and decision-making skills and processes through a semester-long leadership program," said junior Kelly Patullo.

Patullo was chosen as the student director of MYMOM for 2009-2010. She and co-director junior Nicole Ferraro would be in charge of planning, implementing and evaluating the program.

"MYMOM was designed to be a springboard into authentic involvement at school as well as a safe and comfortable environment to meet new people and express yourself," said Patullo.

Groups of freshmen and sophomores were assigned a counselor to meet with once a week for a semester.

"Every Monday night, we met up with our council for dinner and then went to our MYMOM meeting," said freshman Christine Donovan. "At each meeting, we listened to a presentation from either a faculty member or alumni of JMU. Their talks gave us valuable information in strengthening our leadership skills and involvement in school. Many presentations were inspiring and left us with

advice in how to successfully 'make our mark' on Madison while staying true to our personal values and beliefs."

Aside from the weekly meetings, students also participated in community service events, including a casino night for a local retirement home.

Students joined MYMOM for many different reasons. It was not pertinent that students joined as freshmen, but it helped as students moved through the program and wanted to become counselors.

"As a freshman, I decided to get involved in MYMOM because I simply wanted something to do that seemed like it would get my foot in the door for future involvement at school," said Patullo.

For others, it was a family member's encouragement.

"My mom actually got me interested in MYMOM, believe it or not," said freshman Melanie Gilbert. "She saw the program and thought it would be great for me."

MYMOM's booth at student organization night was another great pull.

"I learned about MYMOM from the student organization night and thought it would be a good experience," said freshman Stephanie Birkett. "I was very involved in high school and figured MYMOM would help me learn different areas about school, as well as learn more about myself."

MYMOM provided students with an opportunity to create new friendships with other students who had similar interests. Although the program may have cut into study time on Monday nights, the program taught students important aspects of leadership that would help them in the future.

"MYMOM was overall a phenomenal program that I wish every single incoming student had an opportunity and passion to get involved with," said Patullo. "I truly felt that involvement in this program guided students into success throughout their college careers."



**GOOFILY** posing on the kissing rock, MYMOM student directors and staff smile for a photo. The MYMOM staff worked in pairs of two with small groups of freshmen and sophomores to discuss topics such as communication and diversity. Photo courtesy of Molly Monwaring





# Administrating Excellence

By Rebecca Schneider

President Linwood H. Rose and his support staff worked behind the scenes to make the day-to-day activities of the university happen. Administration members strove "to provide exceptional faculty, well-maintained facilities, diverse activities, outstanding support services and an environment for learning and exploring" to all students who pursued an education at the university, according to Rose.

Through this mission, Rose and the senior administration handled routine operations of the university and oversaw the major divisions of the institution: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and University Planning, Administration and Finance, and University Advancement. They were each committed to providing a superior educational experience for students, in addition to an accessible workplace for faculty and staff.

The Division of Academic Affairs and Provost Douglas T. Brown worked together to offer students many "new and innovative programs... as well as stellar programs in the liberal arts and sciences, business, health professions and education," according to its Web site. Academic Affairs also provided services to faculty and staff that were intended to enhance professional development and promote continuing education.

Aiming to improve all aspects of the university community, every development underwent serious consideration by the Division of Student Affairs and University Planning.

"The university's planning process is at the core of everything we do," said Senior Vice President Mark Warner. With many developments expected in the upcoming years, the Campuswide Master Plan project was approved by the Board of Visitors, which would act as a long-range road map for the future of the physical campus.

As the campus continued to evolve, the Division of Administration and Finance began the first stages of improving athletic facilities on campus. The need for more seating was magnified by the success of the university's intercollegiate athletics. During the 2008 season, "the [football] team had nine wins over teams that were nationally ranked... and finished the year ranked third nationally," noted Brian Charette, assistant vice president of human resources, training and performance.

With the continuing accomplishments of the Dukes, planning and designing began for the construction of the existing home side and northern end zone seating sections of Bridgeforth Stadium to expand seating capacity and support facilities, scheduled to begin in October 2009. In addition, the construction of the new softball and baseball complex on the site of Memorial Hall began during the 2008-2009 academic year.

Although expanding the curriculum, the campus and the surrounding area, the university still made advancements towards reducing its environmental footprint. The university conserved thousands of gallons of water by eliminating service trays in dining facilities, according to Administration and Finance.

With the close of "The Madison Century" campaign in June 2008, the Division of University Advancement was glad to announce that the goal they had set was "smashed."

"Alumni and friends of the university have shown that a culture of philanthropy—a new sprit of involvement after graduation—a commitment to giving back to Madison—has begun to flourish," according to Senior Vice President Joanne Carr.

The university community was something to cherish. "When you come to JMU, you will feel the positive spirit of friendliness, caring, price and collaboration that characterize those associated with the university," said Rose.

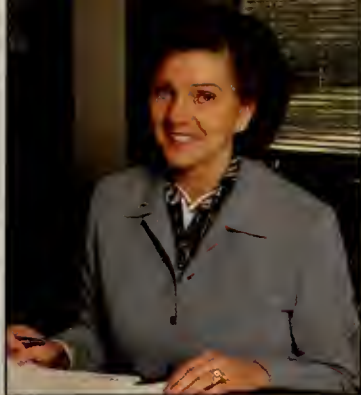
Warner was proud to announce that in 2009, "[the administration] unveiled 'The Madison Way,' a statement that is being shared to promote and perpetuate the special culture we have at JMU."

Enforcing the university's mission statement, administration members, faculty, staff, students and alumni were "a community committed to preparing students to be educated and enlightened citizens who lead productive and meaningful lives." For years, administrators would maintain that vision while continuing to make advancements toward the future.

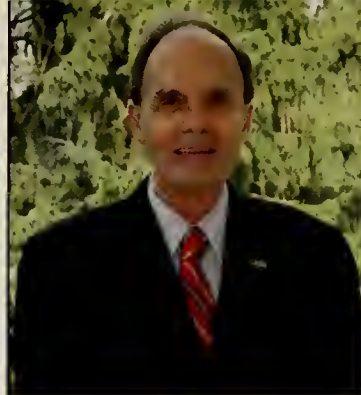
Linwood H. Rose  
*President*







**Joanne Carr**  
Senior Vice President for  
University Advancement



**Douglas Brown**  
Provost and Vice President for  
Academic Affairs



**Mark Warner**  
Senior Vice President for  
Student Affairs and University  
Planning and Analysis



**Charles King, Jr.**  
Senior Vice President for  
Administration and Finance



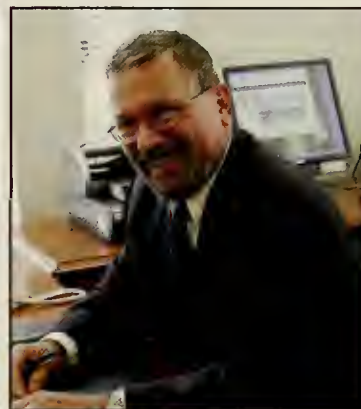
**Jerry Benson**  
Vice Provost for Science, Technology,  
Engineering and Mathematics



**John Noftsinger**  
Vice Provost for Research  
and Public Service



**Teresa Gonzalez**  
Vice Provost for Academic  
Program Support



**David Jeffrey**  
Dean  
College of Arts and Letters



**Robert D. Reid**  
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**Phillip Wishon**  
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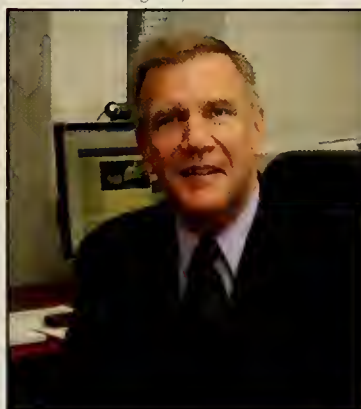
**Linda Cabe Halpern**  
Dean  
University Studies



**Sharon Lovell**  
Dean, College of Integrated  
Science and Technology



**David Brakke**  
Dean, College of Science and  
Mathematics



**George Sparks**  
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Performing Arts



**Ralph Alberico**  
Dean, Libraries and Educational  
Technologies



**Ronald Carrier**  
Chancellor



Orga



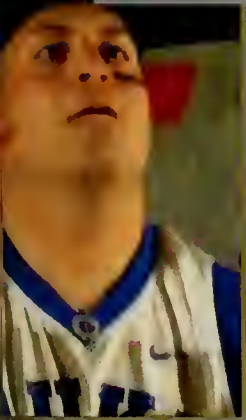
Photo by Amy Gwaltney

Photo by Rebecca Schnieder

# nizations



Photo by Natalie Wall







PROVING that even a business fraternity can be a little silly, members pile on top of one another. Snowball fights and competitive pick-up volleyball games were also popular impromptu social events for Alpha Kappa Psi. Photo courtesy of Kelly Salire

By Katie Thisdell

# Get Down to Business

The coed business fraternity, Alpha Kappa Psi, was dedicated to leadership.

Mixing business and pleasure, Alpha Kappa Psi (AKPsi) united its brothers throughout the year. The coed business fraternity hosted professional and social events for the 89 brothers of AKPsi, encouraging its members to form close relationships while helping one another.

"We never are alone," said president Mary Rosenthal, a senior. "They are truly my brothers. When we are walking around campus and especially in Showker, you always see a friendly face willing to stop and talk."

The brothers knew that there would always be someone there for them.

"Whenever anyone in the fraternity needs help, someone is always willing to lend a hand, and I love that about AKPsi," said senior Jessica Naquin, vice president of membership. "Also, our fraternity loves to give back to JMU and the community."

The brothers were dedicated to raising money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Each spring, they held an annual golf tournament, and they hoped to sponsor a 5K as well.

"We want to be able to contribute more money to this cause," said Rosenthal. "Everyone is very excited about this opportunity."

Aside from service opportunities, rushing and pledging the fraternity was an experience that the brothers would not forget. Naquin was known as the "Pledge Mom" for her role in helping the new brothers during fall rush. Since this was such an important time for new pledges, she said it was a large responsibility, but worth it.

"I loved being able to have such an impact on their lives," said Naquin. "I think they will be great brothers and hopefully I helped

with that." Naquin joined the fraternity after transferring to the university her sophomore year. Looking for a group to join, she went to the first rush event. "I immediately knew that was where I belonged," she said.

AKPsi helped brothers become better leaders, not just in the business world, but also in their own lives.

"Since joining AKPsi, I have become more confident and my networking abilities have become stronger than ever," said senior Alex Hawthorne. "I can't express how much AKPsi has done for me as an individual."

The fraternity went through ups and downs and changed over the years, but Naquin said she liked seeing how it had come out on top.

"Our progression and how AKPsi has made us all better business leaders and individuals is awesome," she said. They worked on passing traditions down to the new brothers, since there was a large graduating class. "We know we are leaving the fraternity in good hands," said Naquin.

Brothers participated in activities from snow tubing and corn mazes to family gatherings and a formal. There were leadership seminars and corporate speakers as well.

"I was able to figure out what classes to take, who the 'better' professors are, go to lunch with groups of people, and practice interviewing with them," said Rosenthal. "I learned so much about the business world, professionalism, myself, leadership and how to truly enjoy the time I have in college with my friends."



**MODELING** their shirts, members imitate the pose shown on the back. The quote, "Got A Little Business In You?," played off a popular Captain Morgan advertisement. Photo courtesy of Kelly Salire



**Front Row:** Marsha Shenk, Mary Rosenthal, Meghan Bollenback, Katy Lovin, Kristen Taylor, Megan Ngo, Nicole Furtado, Kerry Matthews, Patty Grinnell; **Second row:** Nick Snider, Alex Hawthorne, Tyler Austria, Kimberly Wojno, Kelly Mitchell, Lynda Carr, Carter Cole, Nicole Rodenbaugh, Alyson Therres, Elizabeth Johnson, Kristen Dunn; **Back Row:** Mike O'Shaughnessy, Sean Aldo, Justin Kimmel, Steve Jackson, Lee Jamison, Chris Jenkins, Jessica Naquin, Christopher Perez, Kate Wiczorek, David Daniele

Alpha Kappa Psi

Alpha Kappa Psi 263







**HAVING** braved the rain, members of Alpha Phi pose for a cheerful picture at Relay for Life. Participants from the university raised nearly \$200,000 for the American Cancer Society. Photo courtesy of Joanna Kim



## Alpha Phi

**Front Row:** Shannon Nelson, Emily Strickler, Michelle Hammerle, Becky Wardwell, Kayla McKechnie, Emily Lindamood, Jessica Shelton; **Second Row:** Toni Ivanova, Clare Badgley, Jessica Fox, Lisa Klassen, Alison Huffstetler, Kelley Kolar, Johanna Kim; **Back Row:** Whitney Lemke, Sara Schoeb, Kaitlin Solomon, Ashley Smith, Megan Ridgway, Katie Hyson, Kaitlin Salmon, Casey Culpepper





SISTERS take a break from community service on a social trip to Redding. The sorority's leadership service and building long friendships. Photo courtesy of Joanna Kim.

By Steph Synoracki

# Hearts of Gold

The sisters of Alpha Phi raised more than \$15,000 for their cardiac care philanthropy

The ladies of the Theta Iota chapter of Alpha Phi shared a special bond with one another as they worked together to spread awareness and raise money for their philanthropy, the Alpha Phi Foundation. The foundation was designed to provide women with cardiac care, offer a chance to develop leadership skills and encourage women to be giving individuals.

Although fundraisers were carried on throughout the year, Alpha Phi held its philanthropy week during the spring semester, around Valentine's Day. "Aphasco," as it was called, was "an exciting, fun-filled week where the sisters get to interact with the JMU community to raise money for an important cause," said junior Ali Anderson.

The week began on Feb. 9 with the "Move your Phi't" 5K walk/run. On Monday, the ladies hosted the "King of Hearts" male auction in Grafton-Stovall Theatre, where male students performed talents and were bid on by women of the university. The theatre was filled with laughter throughout the whole event.

Tuesday and Wednesday of Aphasco were proceeds nights at Ham's Restaurant and Tutti Gusti. Alpha Phi participated in "Jail'n'Bail" with many other campus organizations on Thursday, a fundraising event where members of each group stood behind a fake jail scene, hoping that friends and fellow students would help post their bail. On Friday, Aphasco came to an end with the Red Dress Gala held in the Festival Ballroom. A guest speaker from Rockingham Memorial Hospital spoke at the event concerning women's heart health.

In addition to the daily events, "JMU is for LOVERS" T-shirts were sold on the Commons Monday through Friday. Alpha Phi's fundraising goal for Aphasco was \$15,000, which they passed by almost \$800. The money was donated to the Alpha Phi Foundation, and in celebration of their fundraising efforts, the foundation do-

nated \$11,475 to Rockingham Memorial Hospital Women's Health Focus in honor of the university's chapter of Alpha Phi.

As president, junior Stephanie Tan's goal was "to keep our women involved in our history and philanthropy [through] retreats among other educational programming provided by Alpha Phi International. We also utilize our Unity Chair in creating events to strengthen the bonds of our sisterhood." Unity Chair members were in charge of promoting harmony in the chapter.

The ladies of Alpha Phi came in first place in the Greek Switch Step Show in the fall, hosted by Sigma Gamma Rho. The girls worked with a coach from Sigma Gamma Rho to choreograph their own piece. "It was a great opportunity to unite the entire Greek community at James Madison University," said Tan.

Theta Iota had a lot to be proud of, as they were the recipients of two awards at the Collegiate Awards Banquet in 2008: Excellence in Chapter Leadership and Outstanding Advisory Board.

One of the most memorable times of the year for many sisters was the Big/Little Week, where older sisters of Alpha Phi were able to share their excitement with the new members.

"The new girls were really excited and their Bigs gave them all kinds of presents and surprises. They even had some a cappella groups... sing to the girls on the Quad," said senior Jacquelyn Camut.

As friends and as sisters, the ladies of Alpha Phi created a special bond throughout the year that they would carry for the rest of their lives.

"Alpha Phi has shown me that I can have so many great friends with such different personalities," said Anderson. "I am lucky to be part of an organization where I can spend time with amazing girls that I can call my sisters."





# University Organ

Hostesses of many community service projects, the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha encouraged high educational and ethical standards. Their primary goals included resolving issues concerning women, promoting unity and providing service.



## Alpha Kappa Alpha

**Front Row:** Tiffany Graves, Telmyr Lee, Tiara McKeever; **Back Row:** Renee Newsom, Quinncee Payne, Chiquita King

Established in the spring of 2003, Alpha Kappa Delta Phi was the only Asian-American sorority on campus. The ladies raised more than \$4,000 for the Susan G. Komen Foundation during their "Real Dukes Wear Pink" charity dinner where they promoted sisterhood, scholarship, leadership and Asian Awareness.



## Alpha Kappa Delta Phi

**Front Row:** Kristen Hoang, Nancy Phan, Jenny Chung, Hong-Quy Duong, Kim Nguyen, Emily Poly, Flor Militar; **Back Row:** Phuong La, Delia Chen, Jill Lu, Jay Ahn, DuyNhat Nguyen, Courtney Wu, Nabila Hafez



The first intercollegiate fraternity founded for and by black males, Alpha Phi Alpha required candidates to have a GPA of at least 2.5 and be registered to vote. Promoting brotherhood, academic excellence and service to the community were three of the organization's primary goals.

## Alpha Phi Alpha

**Front Row:** Justin Harris, Emmanuel Jefferson, Matthew Locke, Zachary Lane, Aamir Cobb, William McCoy; **Back Row:** Brandyn Green, Dominique Scott, Shaun Harris, Winston Bland, Paris Hamilton, Victor Gyamfi, Brandon Brown



Working to educate students and the community about Asian culture, the Asian Student Union held its 10th annual culture show in November. The show featured performances inspired by China, Korea, the Philippines and Vietnam.

## Asian Student Union

**Front Row:** Han Nguyen, Christine Lam, Priscilla Odango; **Second row:** Nammy Nguyen, Leanne Carpio, Adrienne Maraya, Michael Wu, Reza Mina; **Back Row:** Kevin Loftus, Jessie Salvador, Nona Aragon, Jacob Albert, Jonathan Belmonte





**SPOUTING** some attitude, members of AST perform as part of Greek Sing. Greek Sing was the finale to Greek Week, where sororities and fraternities came together to unite the Greek community. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



## Alpha Sigma Tau

**Front Row:** Sara Christie, Emily Jessee, Caitlin Fenerty, Kristin Cassell; **Second Row:** Lyndsay Campbell, Ashley Jones, Molly Shea, Chelsea Richter, Jennifer Campbell, Victoria Bradley, Ashley Earnhardt, Amanda Malinowski; **Third Row:** Jamie Dalsimer, Stephanie Leffke, Brianne Allison, Jenny Donaldson, Kendall Meyer, Mallory Shields, Liz Schwieder, Erin Devening, Heather Martin; **Back Row:** Ariel Brown, Katelin Mikuta, Krista Rockhill, Jacquelyn Walsh, Lauren Miscioscia, York Woodsmall, Nina Szemis



**BRAVING** the inclement weather, members hold the finish line sign at their AIDS Awareness 5K run/walk. They also promoted awareness by holding a concert and blood drives, and organizing sports events. Photo courtesy of Emily Jessee

By Lianne Palmatier

# Sister, Sister

## Alpha Sigma Tau spread AIDS awareness throughout Harrisonburg

If philanthropy was a sport, the ladies of Alpha Sigma Tau (AST) would have been at the top of the pack. Their philanthropy was AIDS Awareness, and members hosted a slew of events to raise money and promote AIDS awareness throughout the Harrisonburg community.

"We put on an AIDS Benefit Concert, had blood drives, a 5K run/walk and sports events," said junior Megan Gardiner. Other than AIDS awareness, AST also supported the Pine Mountain Settlement School and Habitat for Humanity.

"We put on a "Band-Aid" concert, from which all proceeds went directly to AIDS awareness," said junior Bayley Lesperance. "We also had a capture the flag event, Commons days and sponsored a movie at Grafton-Stovall Theatre."

The ladies focused on events on campus and around Harrisonburg, demonstrating love for the university as well as their community.

In addition to working with organizations to better the community, members also worked together to better their relationships with others and among themselves. They spent time getting to know one another during events and in their spare time.

"What was special about AST was that each sister had her own unique identity. We were a group of diverse women who shared a common interest in sisterhood, service and scholarship," said Gardiner. "My favorite aspects of being in a sorority were the special bonds of sisterhood and the amazing friendships that were formed. It was a great feeling to be a part of something bigger than

myself."

To be in AST, members had to maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.5. They recognized the need to maintain good grades as well as be involved with the community.

"We also recognized girls who got better than a 3.0 every semester with a special dinner, and at our parents banquet. We took school work very seriously," said Lesperance.

"Our requirements clearly showed that we were women of scholarship who believed in high standards of learning," said Gardiner. "The moment I walked into the AST basement, I felt at home. The women who greeted me were genuine and obviously loved to be around each other."

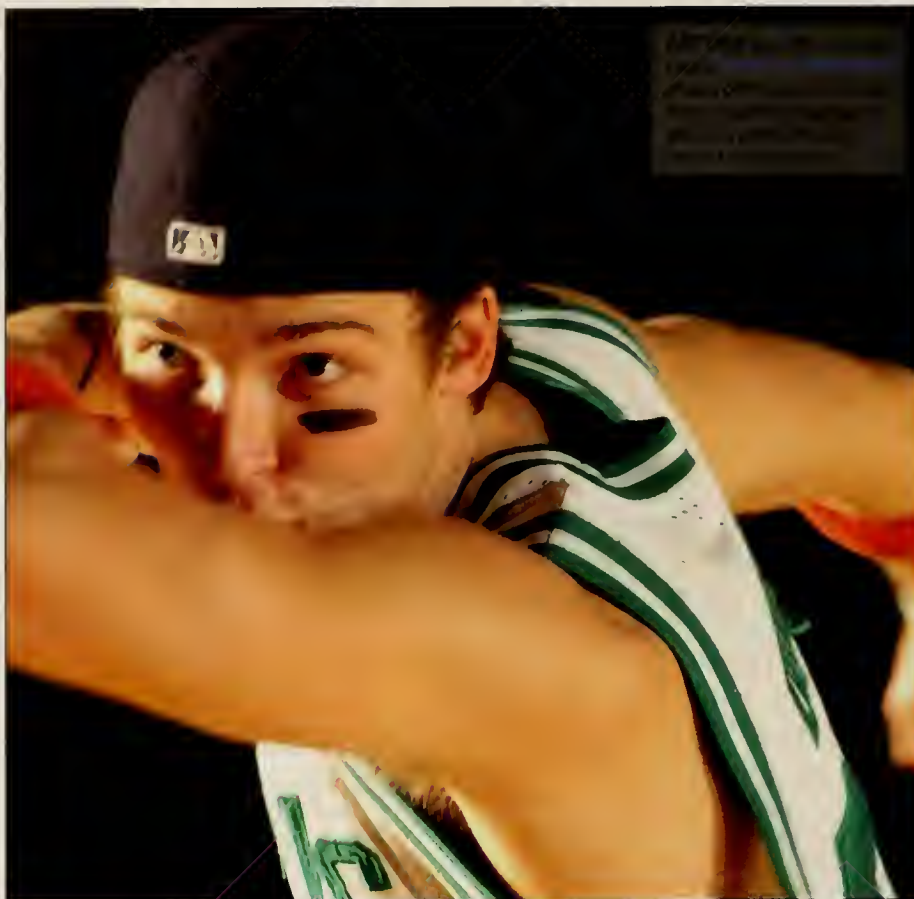
Lesperance said, "I felt the most comfortable in AST. Each sorority was great, but I felt that I personally clicked more with the girls in AST."

The sisters each shared a special bond with one another that would not have been possible without the hard work they put in during the school year. The events they sponsored and teamwork all contributed to the friendships formed among the girls.

"The people were what I found most special about AST," said Gardiner. "All the girls I met held a special place in my heart, and I can say that looking back, I would not be who I am without the girls that I met in AST."







By Sarah Chain

## Brotherly Love

Alpha Tau Omega was full of  
friendship and service

At first glance, Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) might have seemed like an anomaly for a Greek organization.

"ATO is not looking for 'frat guys,'" said senior AJ Macey. "The chapter is made up of men from many different areas and backgrounds, which helps to keep fresh ideas flowing."

Members of ATO went past stereotypes to focus on leadership and service to the community. ATO's values were based off the beliefs of Christianity and not Greek mythology, according to junior Keith Reilly.

"We strive to be servant leaders... we strive to do more than better ourselves, we try to make an effect on those around us," said Reilly.

Service projects included weekly tutoring programs at Spotswood Elementary School, volunteer work at Sunnyside Retirement Home and fundraising events like Rock for Random Acts of Kindness (RAK). Rock for RAK was an all-day event dedicated to raising money for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Despite the rain during the event in September, more than 20 organizations joined ATO to raise nearly \$4,000.

In the spring semester, the fraternity planned on leading a trip for Spotswood students to go to Monticello, James Madison's estate. Members raised money to help pay for the cost of the trip and ac-

companied the students as chaperones.

The Kappa Zeta chapter of ATO colonized at the university in the fall of 2006, with 38 men. As a founder of ATO, Macey saw the fraternity come together in the beginning.

"I saw that the guys originally involved were something I wasn't able to find in other fraternities here," said Macey. "We all worked very hard, got a little lucky, and ATO snowballed into what it is today."

ATO helped to develop its members' accountability, work ethic, service and leadership, all while making lasting friendships at the university.

The fraternity organized two intramural teams, flag football and indoor soccer, where members could get to know one another in a laid-back atmosphere. Both teams took the championship title in 2007. Aside from sports, different "families" of brothers took turns on Sunday evenings cooking for the whole chapter, according to Macey.

"I have no doubt that I will have ATOs in my wedding party," said Reilly. "We have a large graduating class in the spring, but none of us see their departure as a final goodbye."



**BROTHERS** in ATO huddle around a fellow member of the fraternity during their Greek Sing performance. The members' performance was based on a Jock Jams spoof. Photo by Notalie Wall



**HOT** dogs raised in preparation, brothers junior Charlie Franker and senior Dave Larosa take on an eating contest in Rock for RAK (Random Acts of Kindness). The event included a dunk tank, mechanical bull, volleyball tournament and live music. Photo courtesy of Caroline Blanzaco



**Front Row:** Adam Smith, Matthew Lyons, **Second Row:** David Tashner, Daniel Finn, John McAuley, Nicholas Passero, Michael Bullard, Jacob J. Rauh, Dominic Fudisco, Kyle Stoveken, Robert de Laat, Joshua Kingsbury, Zach Marshall, Joseph A. Keane II, Benjamin Steiner, Carmack, Paul Perruzza, Zackary Lopez, **Third row:** Ryan McCormack, Ryan Alexander Link, Matthew Robert Lilja, A.J. Mahar, Christopher James Lyon, Andrew Hamilton Reese, Andrew Jon Macey, Matthew Alexander Passero, Joshua Joseph Rauh, Brian Matthew Tordella, Daniel James Bolen, Benjamin S. Criss, Sean Youngberg. **Back Row:** Christopher Martin, Richard Kelsey, Charlie Franker, Nathan Solow, Scott W. Regan, Matthew Wetherbee, Jonathan S. Lyons, Christopher Wood, Zachary Bauer.

Alpha Tau Omega  
Alpha Tau Omega 271



# University Organ

Only two years old at the university, the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) focused on preparing elementary education majors for teaching positions. Events focused on service and volunteer opportunities in the community involving young children.



## Association for Childhood Education International

**Front Row:** Caitlin Munson, Julie Simpson, Jennifer Chevalier, Julia Urban, Shannon McCullough, Caitlin Pinnella, Aly Gitlin; **Back Row:** A.J. McClung, Brandy Talbott, Sarah Creamer, Laura Ginish, Michele Ritner, Sarah Young, Caroline Fischer, Katie Conway

Focused on promoting unity among Black and Latino Greek organizations on campus, the Black Latino Greek Caucus held three major events throughout the year. Greek Week, Greek Cookout and the Alumni Step Show all provided opportunities for members of the Greek community to interact.



## Black Latino Greek Caucus

**Front Row:** Sam Everett, Justin Wilson, Ashley Daniels, Angel Brockenbrough, Quincee Payne, Shaun Harris; **Second Row:** Briana Harris, L. Nell Smircina, Victoria Gaines, Telmyr Lee, Tiffany Graves, Tiara McKeever, Chiquita King, Ashley Clarke, William McCoy, Zachary Lane; **Third row:** Roy McDonald, Chervon Moore, Karla Smith, Rashaunda Jadson, Britnie Green, Brandon Brown, Vernita Fisher; **Back Row:** Rashonda Roberson, Mynik Taylor, Anasa King, Jessica Wade, Ivaco Clarke, Renee Newsom, Courtney Dixon, Winston Bland



Hip-Hop Summit Week, Black History Week and Ebony Exposure Week were just a handful of the Black Student Alliance's events during the year. Members worked to support recruitment of black students, assist in their orientation and promote interaction and involvement in school activities.

## Black Student Alliance

**Front Row:** Katie Morris, Jalisa Johnson, Janna Hall, Jade Hillery, Asya Toney; **Second Row:** Mynik Taylor, Bianca Newton, Jessica Bailey, Justin Carter; **Back Row:** Brandyn Green, Bradley Davis, KD Doxie, Donte Jiggetts



With about 40 members, the Bocce Ball Club grew at a rapid rate. Established in 2007, the club was dedicated to bridging the gap between students and the elderly, a feat accomplished by trips to local retirement homes.

## Bocce Ball Club

**Front Row:** Pat Lay; **Second Row:** Emily Ciccarelli, Kathryn Owens, Erica Harriman, Leslie Haase, Matt Acosta, Brittany Morgan, Emilia Randler, Rachel Johnson, Julia McCurdy, Haley Westman; **Back Row:** JJ O'Malley, Brian Fridley, Jeno Pizarro, Laura Henschen, Jason Pitt, Travis Black, Zack Neurohr, Phil Blake, Isabelle Puryear







By Beth Principi

## Bull's Eye

### The Archery Club was the 2007 and 2008 national champion

Members of Archery Club were very busy. The students bled purple, shot gold and won two national championships in two years.

Because of Title IX, archery was officially cut as a varsity sport a month after the team won the national championship in 2007.

With more national championships than any varsity sport on campus, some assumed that there was bitterness between the administration and the club members over being cut. But senior Brittany Lorenti, treasurer of the club, said that simply was not the case.

"We really used it to our advantage," said Lorenti. "We learned everything that goes into running a club sport efficiently."

Whether it was recruiting on campus or fundraising for different tournaments, the new club members learned the ropes and swung their way to a second national championship win.

As the reigning 2007 and 2008 national champions, their goal for the next season was to win another national championship. Senior Nick Kale, president of Archery Club, said he had high hopes for the upcoming season.

"We have been practicing five days a week for most of the semester and everything is going great," said Kale. "What I'm impressed with is how many freshmen are dedicated to learning how to shoot and wanting to improve."

The first thing freshmen had to decide was what type of archery they would participate in. There were two styles, compound and recurve.

"Compound shooters are allowed a scoped sight, release aids, and their bows use cams to help store energy and shoot faster," ex-

plained Kale. "Recurve is a type of bow that uses sights that are not scoped, no release aids, and does not have cams."

Recurves and compounds did not shoot against each other in any competitions, and recurves were the only bows allowed in the Olympics.

Kale, who shot recurve, was an All-American in 2008, while Lorenti made the world team in 2006 and 2008, which brought her to Slovakia and Taiwan. Senior Jacob Wukie, who left in 2008 to train as an alternate for the 2008 United States Olympic Archery Team, came back for the upcoming season.

"We are very proud to have such a high caliber archer train and shoot in our program," said Kale.

Wukie was not the only archer in the club to compete on an international level. "This team is comprised of an amazing group of archers from around the country," said Lorenti. "We have had nine world champions and have won 20 individual and mixed team championships."

With Archery Club's great success, it may have seemed that the talent came naturally to these athletes, but members were quick to say otherwise. "It takes lots and lots of shooting," said Kale. "You can usually find me shooting six to seven times a week."

By counting the championships and honors the archers had compiled in the last two years, it was apparent that becoming a club did not stop this team of ace shooters.





**POSING** for the camera, the team holds up their bows. The Archery Club won more national championships than any university varsity sport.  
*Photo courtesy of Nick Kale*



*Archery Club*

*Archery Club 275*



**Front Row:** Nick Kale, Chris Booth, Mike Ashton, Maegan Pisman, Bryan Brady, Brittany Lorenti; **Back Row:** Katie Jepson, Jacob Wukie, Nathan McCullough, Scott Einsmann, Paul Sexton, Stephanie Gallagher, Tyler Martin



## Raw Horsepower

**MOUNTED** on the horse, junior Allison Smyrl practices in the ring. The Equestrian Club had practiced at Brilee Farm near the university since 2006. Photo Courtesy of Leslie Carlson



**SOARING** through the air, junior Leslie Carlson practices a jump. The Equestrian Club competed against other Virginia colleges at shows organized by the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association. Photo courtesy of Leslie Carlson



## Equestrian Club

**Front Row:** Johanna Pedersen, Colby Bohn, Rosalie Chilton, Allison Killam, Matt Dickard; **Second Row:** Nikki Morris, Vanessa Colley, Liz Lange, Morgan Fink, Tessa Amey, Jillian Regan; **Back Row:** Allison Smyrl, Sophia Romanow, Maggie Foley, Leslie Carlson, Adriana Nannini



TRAINER Bobby Jones and junior Leslie Carlson watch another club member show. Members bought training packages and fit the sessions in around their class schedules. Photo courtesy of Leslie Carlson



# Raw Horsepower

By Caitlin Harrison

Equestrian Club members overcame challenges to win their first show in three years

Obstacles were the name of the game for the Equestrian Club. Members focused on building a competitive team from scratch after major changes were made a few years prior.

"Three years ago, our team had to find a new facility, new horses and a new coach," said junior Allison Smyrl. "Our past and present members have worked tremendously hard to build this program back up from the ground."

Even though the Equestrian team at the university was a club sport, the members still competed against varsity teams from other schools. The team won its first show in three years in October at Hollins University. Aside from the 13 members of the team who rode competitively, there were more than 70 other riders who did not compete.

"What I think is most significant about this year is that we have riders of all different ages and experience levels on our show team," said junior Leslie Carlson. "Our freshmen have done really well for themselves and the team. Also, we have very few seniors this year, but the leadership has been better than ever."

Team members practiced at Brilee Farm, located about 20 minutes from campus. During show weeks, the riders practiced for an hour up to three times a week, and also practiced with their trainer, Bobby Jones. Riders paid for a lesson package from the trainer, and

then made the lesson times work with their class schedules. The riders practiced on horses owned by Brilee Farm and private owners. Private owners allowed the riders to practice on their horses in exchange for discounted boarding at the farm.

The Equestrian Club raised money through proceeds nights at various businesses such as Qdoba and Coldstone Creamery, and through concessions at football and basketball games. The team also raised funds through Sally Foster, a company that offered a variety of gifts to be sold, with 50 percent of profits going to the team or organization.

"The Equestrian Club is a very successful self-achieving organization," said senior Danielle Parkinson. "Everyone works together to make money, do their part in community service and achieve points as a club team. Its past and present committed members have helped the Equestrian Club to sustain its successful timeline over the years."

A great deal of experience was not necessary to join the team, and all levels were accepted. Events outside of practice and the friendships between members were what the men and women enjoyed most.

"I have been a part of the Equestrian Club since my freshman year at JMU," said Parkinson. "The riding was great, the showing was great, but I feel that it was the people I met, and the friendships I made that really was my favorite part of the Equestrian Club."



# University Organ

Diligently working to discuss a tender subject, Campus Assault ResponseE (CARE), spread awareness dealing with sexual assault and support of survivors. CARE began a helpline open four days a week, and had recently expanded its hours to 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



## Campus Assault ResponseE

**Front Row:** Alison Huffstetler, Maria Gandolfo, Caitlin Howard; **Back Row:** Elizabeth Curtis, Katherine Olmsted, Kristen Maccubbin, Stephanie Fultz, Peter Mooney

To promote Career and Academic Planning, Career Education Officers (CEO) provided workshops for groups on campus including clubs and residence halls. CEO was formed in 1994 to work with outreach programming.



## Career Education Officers

**Front Row:** Brigid Jacobs, Christine Schaefer, Emily Phillips, Kira Thompson, Katy Johnson; **Back Row:** Chandra Lane, Alaina Vinacco, Kelly Carr, Joe Fogel, Ryan Doren, Jane Arrowsmith



Committed to diversifying and enlightening the university, the Chinese Student Association shared traditional Chinese culture and history. Fundraising for victims of the Sichuan Earthquake that happened in May was the group's main focus for 2008.

## Chinese Student Association

**Front Row:** Phoebe Liu, Michael Wu; **Second Row:** Diana Pei, Natalie Ngu, Han Nguyen, Than-Thuy Nguyen, Erica Villacrusis; **Third Row:** Karen Sin, Alida Huynh, Thanh Nguyen, Wendy Hou, Cathleen Nguyen, Michelle Huynh, Raphael Villacrusis, Christine Lam; **Back Row:** Jacob Albert, Minh Nguyen, Michael Nguyen, Tian-Hao Wang, Jonathan Belmonte, Junzhou Shi, Jason Chuang, Julie Ha



With opportunities for film discussion and production, Cinemuse provided a place for aspiring filmmakers to meet and create video. Hosting an annual film festival with showings both on and off campus was Cinemuse's main event of the year.

## Cinemuse

**Front Row:** Emily Correa, Ashley Scott, Vince Battistone, Traise Rawlings, Molly Greenhood, Elizabeth Chidester; **Second Row:** Jessica Weaver, James Loizou, Kimmy Rohrs, Anne Love Feild, Shawn Bush, Corbin Craft, Garrett Johnson, Joshua Thompson; **Back Row:** Tyler McLeod, Nick Young, John Pierce, Andrew Williams, Steven Irons, Derek Silvers, Greg Tarmargo





## In The limelight

**CROONING** to the ladies, sophomore Austin Colby gets into the "Prom" theme of Exit 245's end-of-the-semester show. A vocal music education major, Colby sang the baritone voice part in the group. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



**DECKED** out in full costume, senior Joel Gerlach pauses between songs. As part of the "Prom" theme, members portrayed popular high school stereotypes. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



## Exit 245

**Front Row:** Adam Spalletta, Denny Norris, Evan LaLiberte, Jim Smith; **Second Row:** Doug McAdoo, David Batteiger, Tyler Bradley, Matt Beck, Joel Gerlach; **Back Row:** Steven Anzuini, Seth Doleman, William Rousseau, Austin Colby, Kyle Hutchinson, Drew Daniels, Thomas Tombes



**SPARKLING** Under the lights, sophomore David Batteiger sings his heart out. Batteiger hid his vest under a jacket for the first part of the show, but then whipped it out for his solo performance. Photo by Amy Gwaltney

By Sarah Chain

# In The Limelight

A cappella group Exit 245 promotes their fifth studio album

Energy, craziness and talent were the first things that came to mind when someone mentioned Exit 245, according to freshman Evan LaLiberte. A new member in the fall semester, LaLiberte was the most recent addition to the university's premiere all-male a cappella group, along with freshmen Drew Daniels, Jim Smith and Tyler Bradley. Ranging from 12 to 17 members depending on the semester, Exit 245 had been traveling up and down the East Coast for more than ten years performing at colleges, high schools and competitions.

"All the guys in the group are really close, and we always have a great time wherever we go," said LaLiberte, who added that his favorite part so far of being in the group was performing shows outside of the university.

The group had released five studio albums and one live album since its inception in 1998, the most recent being "Limelight," in April 2008. Although recording was difficult, tedious and time-consuming, the musicians found it to be a highly rewarding process.

"When you're walking through the Village and you hear your CD being blasted out of a random dorm window from across the way, you can't help but smile and feel good about it," said sophomore David Batteiger. "We've made something someone else loves."

For the first half of the year, however, members took a semester-long break from recording to focus on performing.

"With the time and financial commitments that follow recording sessions, it is difficult for us to always get to perform to the extent we would prefer," said senior Seth Doleman, president of Exit 245.

Exit 245 was eager to perform its new pieces for the university

community. The group could be seen at a variety of philanthropic events like Operation Santa Claus, and Greek fundraisers like Theta's Mr. CASanova. But the group's biggest shows on campus were the end-of-the-semester concerts held in December and April, which showcased a handful of first-time performances. In December, the group debuted "In Love With A Girl," originally by Gavin Degraw; "If You Really Love Me," originally by Stevie Wonder; "Burnin' Up," originally by the Jonas Brothers; and "Do You Believe Me Now," originally by Jimmy Wayne.

The concert was held in junction with The BluesTones' end-of-the-semester concert, mixing the styles of Exit 245 with the all-female voices of The BluesTones for an experience that members of both groups enjoyed. The idea originated when a lack of venues were available for the groups to have separate shows. The groups worked together for the anticipated intermission video built around the "Prom" theme, and performed a rendition of "Somebody to Love," originally by Queen.

"We just decided to combine forces and make it one of the largest a cappella concerts that JMU has ever seen," said Doleman.

Although Exit 245 performed an average of 70 shows per year and practiced three or more times a week, members found plenty of time to relax. When not performing, they supported one another outside of music.

"As much as we enjoy singing together, the best part of being in Exit is the brotherhood," said junior Jason Itam.

Sophomore Thomas Tombes agreed. "Spending as much time together as we do, we form a bond that is nothing short of a brotherhood. We're an extremely tight knit group of guys."







**READY** to attack, sophomore Bryan Moen competes to earn points in target spots. There were more than 100 fencing programs at the college level throughout the nation. Photo courtesy of Sarah Taylor

By Katie Thisdell

## On the DeFeNCE

The fencing club taught themselves the ins and outs of the sport

Surprisingly, there was more to fencing than just stabbing opponents. Members of the Fencing Club learned the basic skills before fighting others in the "family-oriented" sport, according to senior Sarah Taylor, the club's president.

"Beginning fencing is different because you just want to get really into it," said Taylor. "But you have to learn the basics before you can go into a room."

With four practices a week in the Memorial Hall auxiliary gym, members had several options. Tuesdays and Thursdays were drill-based lessons for beginners, while Mondays and Wednesdays were for the advanced members, or those who had completed one semester of training.

"That's when we're free-fencing and we each know what we have to work on," said Taylor.

Sophomore Melanie Demaree said that since there was no coach, the members helped one another. "Your opponents tell you where you're weak and how to improve," she said.

Junior Scott Bell joined the club as a freshman with no experience, and two years later was teaching other beginners.

"That shows how quickly you can improve if you don't give up on it," he said. Bell did not stop learning, either. "You could say that I teach the beginners how to fence, and they teach me how to teach," he said.

Fencers learned to use the three different types of blades: the foil, saber and épée. Each was for a different target area on the body. For example, when a fencer fought with the light and flexible foil, he or she only scored points for hitting an opponent in the torso

area. With an épée, though, points could be scored "from the shoe-laces to the mask," according to Taylor.

The type of blade that a fencer chose "depends on their personality," said Taylor.

Fencers wore the recognizable white protective outfits, including lamé jackets that registered points electronically.

"When you're fencing, you're vulnerable, so you have to think about what your opponent might do," said Demaree. "If you just attack blindly, you'll get hit a lot."

Members, several of who were rated nationally, also attended tournaments through the United States Fencing Association. Though it was difficult to be ranked, Taylor said "it comes naturally to some."

There was more to the club than just practicing the sport. The small group was a tight community that had social activities outside of practices.

"We're a wacky bunch, but we're also an accepting one," said Bell. "We try to keep a focus on how being part of the Fencing Club is more than just getting to stab people. It's also about meeting new people and making friends."

Though the club was not widely known on the university's campus, the members constantly told others students about what they do.

"Most people are impressed and surprised to hear that I fence," said Taylor. "But it's fun, athletic and competitive. You get a rush from doing it."



**SQUARING** off, freshman Patrick Dunford aims at his opponent. The sport of fencing dated all the way back to the 12th century. Photo courtesy of Sarah Taylor



**Front Row:** Megan Godbey, Sarah Taylor, Melanie Demaree, Lindsay Weida, Brigitte Roussos; **Back row:** Scott Bell, Bryan Moen, Ford Lautenschlager, Patrick Dunford

*Fencing Club*



# University Organ

Started as a fraternity at Washington State University in 1936, Circle K International had clubs around the world. Service opportunities for members ranged from a pen pal program with a local elementary school to spending time with residents at Sunnyside Retirement Community.



## Circle K International

**Front Row:** Alexis Bergen, Meredith Sizemore, Jenna Ashworth, Amanda Ressin, Elizabeth Allen; **Back Row:** Kelly Pilkerton, Jennifer Schwartz, Jillian Russell, Donna Jones, Marianne Bradshaw, Parag Parikh

Composed of representatives from each class, Class Council worked to unify each class through social gatherings, academic programs and community service. Members were elected each year to serve on a council for each class.



## SGA class Councils

**Front Row:** Sarah Kavianpour, Caitlin McPartland, Amber Richards, Margaret Eberly, Heather Shuttleworth; **Second Row:** Carlos Ruiz, Greg Hogan, Candace Avalos, Nicole Ferraro, Stephanie Kissam; **Back Row:** Brock Wallace, John Sutter, Evan Botello, Anthony Russo, Timmy Austen



Club Cheer's main purpose was to compete at the regional and national levels. The team was very competitive against varsity teams at other universities, which was seen as a huge accomplishment since Club Cheer was self-run and self-funded.

## Club Cheer

**Front Row:** Janey Tazzioli, Audrey Smith, Ashley Yates, Christine Manley, Sarah Perkinson; **Second Row:** Kelly Gooch, Amanda Michetti, Maria Schmitt, Rebecca Marksteiner, Casey Drumheller, Lindsey Wall; **Back Row:** Ashley Ward, Christine Borkowski, Julia Oates, Katie Gorham, Jess Griffin, Sarah Sams



Club Cross Country and Track Club focused on offering an enjoyable environment for runners to train and compete. The team dedicated much of its time to organizing a sports festival for the mentally challenged in the local community.

## Club Cross Country & Track

**Front Row:** Anne Ralston, Laura Cascio, Amy Sullivan; **Second Row:** Brittany Burke, Alli Ayres, Laura Wheat; **Back Row:** Eric Schramm, James Ashworth, Jake Fishman, Matt Harmon





A CHALLENGING ropes course encouraged new members freshmen Eden Lichtenberg and Jessie Williams to get to know each other on Kappa Alpha Theta's fall retreat. The overnight trip focused on teambuilding skills. Photo by Lauren Baggage



By Matt Johnson

## A Fresh Start

Kappa Alpha Theta began its first full year at the university

Kappa Alpha Theta (KAT) saw many firsts this year. The sisters began their first full year at the university and moved onto campus and into the Greek community.

"We enjoy being a part of the Greek community, and they have been really supportive with us coming onto campus," said senior Landry Bosworth, president of the sorority.

The university's chapter officially began in December 2007, after students had pledged the sorority a month prior.

Since they joined the Greek community, KAT instantly became involved, supporting SafeRides, Student Ambassadors, Greek Week, Relay for Life and many more organizations.

"We just really try to support everyone," said junior Kristin Kleis, vice president of public relations. "We try to go out to everything."

KAT also helped raise money for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) during its first philanthropy week, an organization that represented abused and neglected children in court.

"Our philanthropy is CASA, and [philanthropy week] went really well," said Kleis, who worked with the sorority to raise more than \$500. "It was a great learning experience. We raised some money for the CASA nationally. We even donated some to the CASA of Staunton."

Another first for the sorority was having the opportunity to move onto campus. The building in the Treehouses that used to be Elm (a freshman dorm) provided KAT with a house on Greek Row.

"We were excited to get [the house]," said Bosworth. "It's been amazing living there. I've gotten closer to all the ladies on my floor and it's been a great experience."

The year also brought KAT its first rush week.

"We had our first recruitment process, which went really well," said Kleis. "We did take quota this year, which is good in sorority terms."

Overall, KAT did well during its first year at the university, meeting each new experience with passion and enthusiasm.

"I think we met all those firsts in strides," said Kleis. "I think that we had our ups and downs, but for the most part, the sisters really represented what our values are and really showed that they can be a strong organization here at JMU."

Kleis also believed that the diverse group of women was excited to not only be a part of the Greek community, but also to be a part of something bigger. Bosworth felt that the sorority was a strong organization.

"[We have a] strong sisterhood," said Bosworth. "Even though it's only been a year, the bond that we've established is really strong."

Kleis said, "It's a very supportive community. [It] gives its members every opportunity to excel here at JMU."

Overall, KAT became a very close family in less than a year, with many of its sisters becoming close friends.

"It's been a great experience," said sophomore Jessica Barnett. "I've met a lot of great sisters that have become some of my best friends. It's helped me improve my leadership skills, and it's helped me enjoy college more."





AS part of Kappa Alpha Theta's first fall recruitment, recruits sophomore Allie Graff and junior Tracy Galofaro socialize at a rush event. The Eta Rho chapter began at the university in 2007.  
Photo by Lauren Baggage

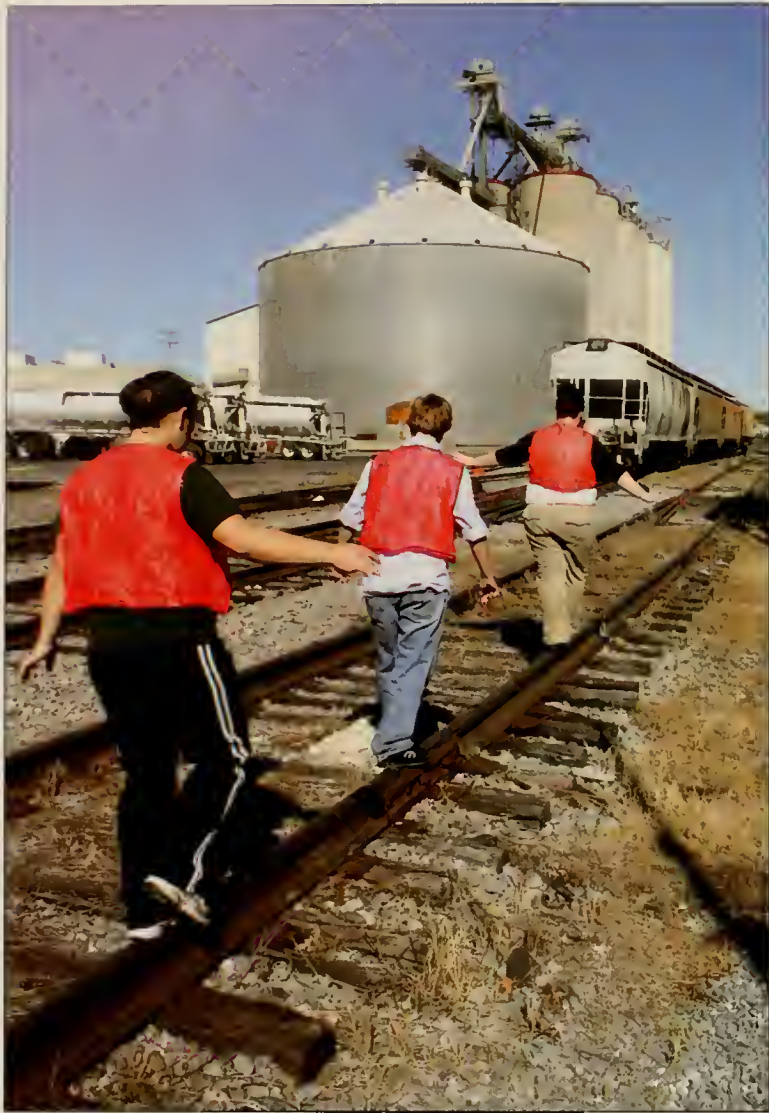


## Kappa Alpha Theta

**Front Row:** Jess Valsechi, Stephanie Kissam, Maria Gandolfo, Shelby Trumble, Samantha Reynolds, Christa Samaha, Summer Loub, Kathleen Lee; **Second Row:** Lauren Babbage, Katelyn Hodges, Michael Fuzy, Michele Topping, Katie Minese, Chelsea Ronayne, Danielle Chelena, Jenny Sinnott; **Third Row:** Jessica Chambers, Jordan Huskey, Becki Schumm, Kelsey Owens, Katie Duffy, Amanda Rutherford, Kim Burkins, Ashley Barbee, Rebecca Thomas; **Back Row:** Kerri Lawrence, Landry Bosworth, Carly Arnwine, Lindsay Dornan, Jessica DiLeo, Jessica Maurer, Sarah Pryor, Katherine Reis, Emily Dean, Julie Piepenbring



Gay? Fine By Me



**TAKING** a moment to goof off, group members balance on the railroad tracks by Gay Street. The clean up project was part of Madison Equality's commitment to service. Photo courtesy of Leigh Williams

**HOISTING** signs onto their backs, members of Madison Equality make sure safety is a priority during their community service. The group picked up litter along Gay Street in Harrisonburg. Photo courtesy of Leigh Williams



**SWINGING** the door closed, a student enters the closet. The structure was set out on the Commons for a day so students could write their thoughts on the inside walls and then "come out" of the closet. Photo courtesy of Leigh Williams



**Front row:** Kristina Blehm, Leinaala Robinson, Kelly Clouston, Joelle Teasley, Leigh Williams, Naomi De Gallery; **Back Row:** Marjorie Cook, Alesha Godino, Juliana Cochran, Kristin Engelmann, Tori Lannetti, Gemma Hobbs

Madison  
Equality

288 Organizations





By Caitlin Harrison

# Gay? Fine By Me

Madison Equality spread acceptance of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered communities

Madison Equality went through many changes throughout the year.

"We're restructuring the group more," said junior Melissa Brown, vice president of the club. "We're also trying to be more inclusive of the transgendered branch of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) community and the straight supporters. We want everyone to feel safe and welcomed."

One of the group's newest additions was the "Coming Out Closet." A wooden structure, rectangular in shape and meant to look like a closet, was set out on the Commons on Oct. 11, which was National Coming Out Day.

"The concept is that anyone can go in, confidentially write any secret they might have on the inside of the closet, and then literally and figuratively 'come out' about it," said sophomore Lei Robinson, the events coordinator for the group.

The "Coming Out Closet" was part of Madison Equality's annual GayMU week, where they handed out free purple and gold T-shirts that read: "Gay? Fine By Me." Anyone on the Commons who wanted one could take one, and at the end of the day, everyone took a picture together.

"It's a just movement to involve everyone—gay, straight, transgendered, or whatever you may identify as—who is OK with the LGBT community," said Brown. "A little way to say 'Hey, I support you guys.' A simple shirt can help someone who is insecure in their

own identity feel more comfortable on campus."

Another way that Madison Equality got the word out about the LGBT community was through classroom panels. Professors invited three to four members of Madison Equality to come and discuss with their class.

"They're a great way of putting a human face to the LGBT cause," said sophomore Faith DeGallery, the educational coordinator for the group. "I think it's a lot easier for people to identify and relate to a person rather than a paragraph in a textbook. Their function is primarily to educate the campus on LGBT issues and to give students a unique opportunity to understand what it's like to be somebody who is LGBT."

Madison Equality usually did about 30 to 40 panels each semester, and the group was recognized for their work with a Dolley Award in Outstanding Educational Programs from the university.

Madison Equality's mission was to promote acceptance and tolerance through awareness and education, because the group believed everyone deserved to find a place where they fit in.

"My favorite part of Madison Equality has to be knowing that we are making a safe place for people to be who they are, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, race, religion [or] political affiliation," said Brown. "I think that's unique when we live in such a divisive society."





# University Organ

Holding tryouts once a semester for new members, Club Softball welcomed anyone who had played softball in a competitive environment. The team recently joined the National Club Softball Association.



## Club Softball

**Front Row:** Erin Henning, Courtney Wallace, Jill Zeller, Kristen Taylor, Kristin Wojtowycz, Haley Harmon, Kelly Nardo; **Back Row:** Lauren Ellis, Nicki Averso, Shelby Webb, Shea Thomas, Rosalie Serra, Lynsey Carter, Kelly Weber, Amanda Reeves

Furthering the goals of the Democratic Party both on campus and in the surrounding community, College Democrats had been active since 1975. It was the only group on campus officially associated with the Democratic National Convention.



## College Democrats

**Front Row:** Nora McLeese, Angela Barbosa, Michelle Woods, Sophie Brown, Sherry Vaughan, Melanie Goff; **Back Row:** Ed Rozynski, Kevin Settle, Megan Sanko, David McKinney, Hana Uman, Dimitry Pompee, Andy Eblin, Parth Joshi



Established as an organization in 1972 under the Center for Multicultural Student Services, Contemporary Gospel Singers' goal was to spread the gospel through music. Members used the gift of music to lend a hand and guide others.

## Contemporary Gospel Singers

**Front Row:** Felicia Bracey, Devan Ellison, Telmyr Lee, Tyiesha Brooks, Amy Leggett, Brittanie Sykes, Lauren Smith, Brittany Hopkins, Brittany Ransome, Erica Ponder; **Back Row:** Nideria Brown, Cyndle Hash, Grace Flanagan, Cassandra Howell, Heavenly Hunter, Demetrius Lancaster, Danielle Blue, Korey Lamb, Jasetta Perkins, Doron White



Truth, self-sacrifice and friendship were the three fundamental values of Delta Delta Delta, whose members focused largely on their philanthropic connection to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The university's chapter raised more than \$25,000 for this and other charities in the past year.

## Delta Delta Delta

**Front Row:** Stephanie Galing, Sara Arizzi, Jillian Boyd, Caitlin Nicholson; **Second Row:** Melanie Torano, Callie McGee, Stephanie Peace, Moira Gallagher, Sonja Webster, Meg Gerloff, Alicia Grasso, Rebecca Trudel, Cristen Cravath; **Third Row:** Jenna Stone, Ashley Jensen, Jackie McKay, Laura Spinks, Stacy Mackin, Jamie Puhek, Olivia Fritsche, Vi Nguyen, Sara Kraus, Grace O'Sullivan, Kate Freshwater, Leslie Boyer; **Back Row:** Anne Blessing, Alison Malinchak, Skyla Thomas, Lauren Coble, Samantha Platania, Arlene Carney, Ashley Ward, Courtney Koncelik, Jessica Williams, Alyssa Whitby, Lindsey Halverson, Lauren Harris, Kate Klipfel, Christina Hlatky





## Slam Dunk

**BRACED** for the rebound, junior Matt Prall keeps his eye on the ball. The team placed first in the East Coast Basketball League. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



**JUMPING** for the shot, junior David Ramsey soars over his competition. The team used the facilities in the University Recreation Center to host home games. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



## Men's Club Basketball

**Front Row:** Jake Ruppert, David Ramsey, Thomas McNally, Luke Atwood, Curtis Houper, Steven Asher, Mike Grant; **Second Row:** Caleb Jones, Brian Veith, Matt Wetherbee, Chase Ahmad, Bilal Ahman, Zach Bauer; **Back Row:** Andy Pierce, Graham Griffith, David Anderson, Matt Prall, Todd Crissey, Mohamud Mohamud, Matt Christopher



ARMS raised in a group huddle, the team members psych themselves up for the game. The team did so by playing like a unit rather than a handful of mismatched individuals, according to graduate student Dave Anderson. Photo by Natalie Wall

By Steph Synoracki

# Slam Dunk

## Men's Club Basketball was named the university's 2008 Sports Club of the Year

Feet pitter-pattered across the court, the buzzer sounded, and the crowd cheered in excitement; the men's club basketball team had just won the East Coast Basketball League (ECBL). The club basketball team beat Virginia Tech 68-63 in the final round of the ECBL.

Coach and graduate student Jake Ruppert led the 19 other members of the team through intense practices and energetic games as the men formed a brotherhood with one another during the season.

"I feel like I belong to a big family of 20 brothers," said graduate student Dave Anderson. "Our personalities just work well together and we immediately became great friends."

Before games, the men listened to a warm-up mix on a boom box that they brought everywhere, according to senior Andy Pierce. The music helped them loosen up and prepare for the game.

Aside from joining in the team rituals, Pierce had two of his own. First, he would eat a peanut butter and jelly sandwich before each game. "Second... I untie my shorts, re-tuck in my jersey and then re-tie my shorts. If I forget either of these things, my whole game is thrown off," said Pierce.

The team practiced in the Memorial Hall gymnasium two to three times a week and played about 40 games during the season. One of the most memorable matches, according to junior Mohamud Mohamud, was the game against Howard University.

"We won in a close contest where our team showed heart and determination... I think that will help guide us to more victories in the future," said Mohamud.

Another game that stood out to team members was "JMU Jambo-ree." The men were divided into two different teams, purple and gold. "The purple team lost to Richmond in overtime during the semifinals. It was really rewarding to see the gold team beat Richmond by over 20 points. It just shows how deep our team is," said Anderson.

The men had something else to be proud of. They went from being ranked number 34 in sports clubs at the university to being named "2008 Sports Club of the Year" as voted by a panel from the University Recreation Center.

In addition to playing a game all the players loved, team members volunteered at the local Boys and Girls Club. The team visited the boys and girls twice a semester and played basketball with them.

"It is a great experience for the team, because I believe we are benefiting just as much as the kids," said Mohamud, the community service chair.

Ruppert recalled some of his best times with the team. "One of my favorite memories is turning the team around to a well-respected, winning organization," said Ruppert. "The friendships I have made with these 19 other individuals is something I will always remember during my time at James Madison."







By Sarah Chain & Lianne Palmatier

## Tender Loving Care

The Nursing Student Association was committed to helping others

In a major committed to serving the community, nursing students joined the Nursing Student Association (NSA) to further their dedication. In addition to community service, NSA involved student mentorship and scholarship under the mission of the Virginia Nursing Student Association (VNSA).

"This is similar to the mission of JMU NSA, but on a larger scale, incorporating most nursing schools throughout Virginia," said senior Laura Hudgens, president of the group. "VNSA holds an annual conference for nursing schools in the state, which gives our local chapter a chance to shine at the state level." The university's NSA had won the most active constituency award for six of the past seven years.

Although the nursing program did not begin until a student's junior year, NSA provided an opportunity to learn more about the field as an underclassman. Students had the chance to organize blood drives and alcohol awareness events.

The organization tried to become more involved in community service activities on campus. "This semester we started an alcohol awareness campaign in order to educate students about responsible drinking," said Hudgens. "Our campaign included an alcohol awareness Hollywood Squares game, and a benefit concert to raise money for Mothers Against Drunk Driving."

Another major part of the alcohol awareness campaign was the placement of 1400 black balloons in the Integrated Sciences and Technology (ISAT) building, with each balloon representing the alcohol-related death of a college student.

"There was an awesome response from that, and we even had sta-

tistics on the plasma TVs in ISAT," said senior Rachel Brown, vice president of NSA.

The campaign not only provided awareness of responsible drinking, but also gave the organization face time around the university.

"In the past we have primarily volunteered throughout the Harrisonburg community, but this year we are trying to be more actively involved in the JMU campus," said Hudgens, whose favorite activity this year was the 12 Days of Christmas project.

Through the project, the NSA sponsored a local family in need to make its holiday season better. This gave members the chance to give back and meet people in the community.

"For 12 days in December we either drop gifts off at their house or take the children out for an activity," said Hudgens. Activities included movie nights, seeing "The Nutcracker," or taking the children to get their pictures taken with Santa.

"Just the other day me and a group of members took two young girls of a family to see Madagascar 2 at the movie theater," said senior Morgan Gentry. "Just knowing that all of us taking our time to hang out with them really made them happy, made me appreciate what our organization does."

Hudgens, who had participated in the project since her freshman year, loved the project because she knew how much the help meant to parents.

NSA provided the opportunity for nursing students to share their passion with other people.

Brown summed it up. "To know that you are making a difference in a person's life is priceless."



**DRESSED** in themed attire, junior Katya Chopivsky enjoys the dance. "To see the smile on the seniors' faces was touching, and their excitement and giddiness over taking pictures with 'Elvis' was such a great sight," said Chopivsky. *Photo courtesy of Laura Hudgens*



**Front Row:** Alexandra Norris, Sara Hill, Alexa Greenstein, Kristin Parisi, Rachel Lauren Brown, Laura Hudgens, Nicole Santarsiero, Cari Zuckerman; **Second Row:** Morgan Gentry, Brooke Garrity, Pamela Elias, Jenna Baker, Ashley Viars, Samantha Chason, Julie Penfield, Jenny Hunter; **Back Row:** Whitney Hodgen, Claire Guenther, Ashlyn Wallace, Rebecca Hatch, Mary Margaret Morgan, Rachel Otto, Sarah Buhrman, Katya Chopivsky

*Nursing  
Student  
Association*





# University Organ

The Delta Sigma Theta African-American sisterhood was committed to public service and academic achievement. Delta Sigma Theta held an Annual Date Auction, Annual Crimson and Cream Affair and Fashion Show, and a Unity Cookout.



## Delta Sigma Theta

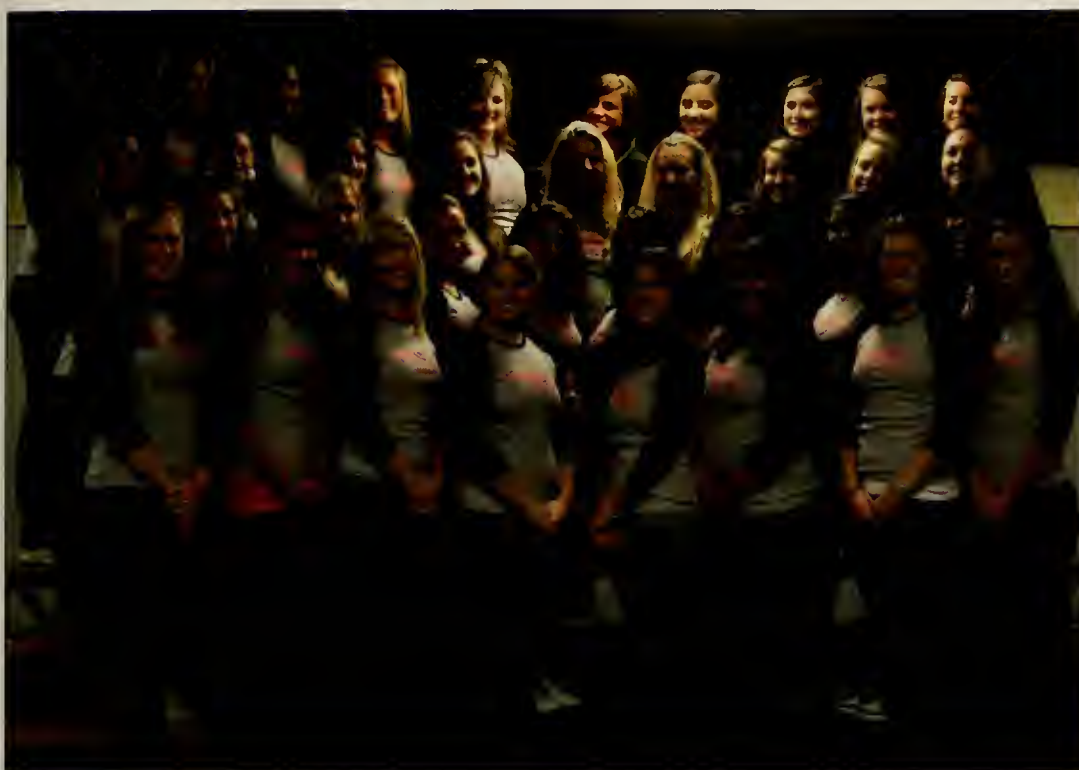
**Front Row:** Mynik Taylor, Ashton Jones, Rashaunda Jackson, Adriane Lanier, L. Nell Smircina, Ashley Daniels; **Back Row:** Ivaco Clarke, Nicole Carter, Courtney Dixon, Jerrica Browder, Vernita Fisher, Marissa Blair

In service to the music community, Kappa Kappa Psi (KKPsi) consisted of leaders dedicated to activities inside and outside the band. The Marching Royal Dukes, the School of Music and other community music programs all benefited from KKPsi's dedication to service.



## Kappa Kappa Psi

**Front Row:** Erica Lambert, Stephanie Hunt, Ashley Porter, Vicki Stratton, Rebecca Ledebuhr, Jennifer Koch, Caitlin Callahan, Jill Stover; **Second Row:** Alexander Davis, Kimberly Woods, Michelle Drauszewski, Rachel Ledebuhr, Ashley Fuller, Brian Giordano, Alexandra Gawler, Kelsey Holland; **Back Row:** William Deacon, Bret Zawilski, Daniel Carpenter, Durrell Lewis, Steven Colella, Kevin O'Brien, Patrick Haggerty, Avery Daugherty



The goal of Madison Dance was to provide a creative outlet for students who loved to dance. The members had a show at the end of each semester, which showcased about 10 routines they practiced.

## Madison Dance

**Front Row:** Renee Revetta, Alexandra Ellis, Amanda Rogers, Courtney Shimer, Claire Howell, Rachel Caro, Ashley Banek, Jenna Thibault; **Second Row:** Kerry Doyle, Kamryn East, Samantha Silva, Alison Swanner, Sarah Heller, Alicen Harris-McDonnell, Brittany Barbou, Brittany Tyler; **Third Row:** Emily Sushko, Heather Ford, Jen Davis, Heather Ballew, Melissa Fischer, Melissa Bechard, Brittany Sarver, Alyssa Dennis, Kaitlyn Kapach; **Back Row:** Allie Dixon, Summer Childrey, Jessica Bailey, Megan Hayes, Courtney Rauch, Gaby Fulton, Lauren deCelle, Lauren Yuhosz, Kaitlin Ewen, Kayla Strickland



Commitment to social and service events distinguished Madison Historians from other organizations that focused on just academics. One of the group's major projects was the creation and placement of historical highway markers that told a brief history of the university.

## Madison Historians

**Front Row:** Emily Gardiner, Matt Dickard, Jeremy Lyons, Shannon Kudlick, Amanda Scheffer, Amy Cerminara, Ashley Sako, Holly Hartman;  
**Back Row:** Sarah Mink, Lauren Kade, Daniel Smith, Julianne Tarabek, Zachary Cady, Alyssa Fisher, Matthew Richard







**DONNED** in her signature purple polo, sophomore Bethany Maxfield leads a campus tour. Tours were given rain or shine, so prospective students were encouraged to bring an umbrella. Photo courtesy of Kristina ErkenBrack

By Steph Synoracki

# First Impressions

## Student Ambassadors showed off the campus to prospective students

At any point during the school day, students donning purple colored shirts could be seen throughout campus leading a group of eager potential students and their families around the university's campus. These tour guides were the university's Student Ambassadors.

As an ambassador, a student was given "the chance to make a difference in someone's decision to attend our amazing university," said senior Kristina ErkenBrack, president of the organization. "I get to tell students how friendly everyone is and what they will experience on campus, and then I get to watch them walk around wide-eyed as they realize it's true."

Each ambassador became interested in the organization for a different reason. Junior Christina Hillgrove's dad was a tour guide at the university and he inspired her to join Student Ambassadors with the stories he told of his tours.

"At first, I wanted to have a lasting impact on undecided seniors or excited juniors visiting JMU, and then it became about leaving a lasting impact upon the community, JMU and prospective students alike," said Hillgrove.

Senior Heather Cote, vice president of membership, had the university at the top of her list and was proud to be a Duke. "I saw Student Ambassadors helping out with so many different aspects of campus, and they always seemed like they had such a good time together," said Cote. "Not only is it an organization that makes a huge difference on our campus, but everyone in Student Ambassadors is truly close and shares genuine friendships that extend far beyond the college years."

Junior Lauren Patrick was in her sophomore year and considering transferring to another school when she stumbled upon Student Ambassadors. "I knew I had to do something to feel a part of

this school," said Patrick. "I researched all of the clubs and organizations and kept coming back to Student Ambassadors. They were a tight knit, amazing bunch that were so involved. I wanted that."

During the application process, more than 300 students applied for membership. It was a tough and grueling process for both applicants and current members of Student Ambassadors, but those who were accepted brought dedication to the organization.

Student Ambassadors went through a big change during the 2008-2009 school year. As president, ErkenBrack implemented changes to the organization's outreach committee. "Part of our motto is 'Serving present students,' and we wanted to improve on how we did that," said ErkenBrack.

The newly re-formed committee worked with other campus organizations to recognize the hard work individuals put forth on campus. The Outreach committee also sponsored the first "Words of Wisdom: Defining the Madison Experience," where the organization brainstormed new ways to serve the present student body.

The members of Student Ambassadors were involved in many campuswide activities throughout the year, including Operation Santa Claus and Family Weekend. Members also worked with the Office of Alumni to create a Student Alumni Association, encouraging students to be "contributing alumni to JMU from day one," said Cote. As part of this new program, "street teams" were formed, composed of Student Ambassadors who scouted the university campus looking for students in college apparel. Those in school colors received gift cards to local businesses and those wearing clothes from another college received gift certificates to the university bookstore so they could purchase university apparel.

As Hillgrove said, "Student Ambassadors are truly people who have selflessly dedicated their talents to serve others."





AS part of its new member orientation evening, Student Ambassadors get to know one another with games. New members were selected from a pool of 300 through an extensive process. Photo courtesy of Kristina ErkenBrack



**LADIES** from Student Ambassadors entertain the university community as part of Operation Santa Claus. The group held the event as a fundraiser for Harrisonburg/Rockingham Social Services. Photo courtesy of Kristina ErkenBrack



**Front Row:** Nick Zurlo, Jen Morganstern, Tara Vaezi, Alison Huffstetler, Rebekah Goldman, Alice Riley Ryan, Emily Perry, Brittany Edstrom, Christa Samaha, Eve Karlin; **Second Row:** Jessica Huddleston, Allie Weissberg, Melissa Noble, Rachel Navarrete, Irina Rasner, Kelsey Pack, Ashley Elstro, Rachel Bruton, Casey Hazlegrove, Janine Morrison, Heather Cote, Allyson Toolan, Kristin Alexander; **Back Row:** Kim Wheeler, Evan Witt, Bryan Couch, Christine Hillgrove, Katie Manges, Emma Young, Connor Birkner, Tim O'Keefe, Zachary Devesty, Anthony Russo, James Morrissey, Kristina ErkenBrack, Sarah Marr

## Student Ambassadors





## RISE to the Occasion



**HEADING** up the "medium" line, junior Nicole Ferraro pumps up the crowd at the anticipated "Purple Out" T-shirt distribution on the Friday night before the Homecoming game. SGA members gave out 3,000 shirts each year. *Photo by Leslie Cavin*

**SERVING** fellow students, senior Chiquita King works the caesar salad line on the Thursday night before Thanksgiving break at "SGA Serves You at D-Hall." SGA members took the place of dining services employees for a night to interact with the student body. *Photo by Leslie Cavin*



## Student Government Association

300 Organizations

**Front Row:** Mindy Gross, Trishena Farley, Leslie Cavin, Stephanie Kissam, Susanna Chacko, Chiquita King, Matthew Silver, Susan Ghanem, Kathleen Lee, Areizo Said; **Second Row:** Sean Banks, Sarah Kavianpour, Caitlin McPartland, Amber Richards, Jacob Ewers, Nicole Ferraro, Margaret Eberly, Chelsea Ronayne, Laura Spinks, Heather Shuttleworth, Larson Thune; **Third Row:** Greg Hogan, Katherine Cole, Ashlyn Wallace, Karen Stefanski, Anthony Russo, Victor Gyamfi, Timmy Austen, Fred Rose, Andrew Elgert, Adam Hall, Candace Avalos; **Last Row:** Brock Wallace, Justin Broughman, John Scott, Bryan Moen, Tommy Bluestein, John Sutter, Evan Botello, Carlos Ruiz, Katilin Solomon, Dan Stana

AS graduate Lindsay Dowd passes the torch, junior Candace Avalos becomes the new vice president of student affairs. At the end-of-the-year executive transition banquet, seniors left underclassmen with valuable words of wisdom. Photo by Leslie Cavin



By Katie Thisdell

# RISE to the Occasion

Student Government Association members strove to represent, inform, serve and educate their fellow students

The Student Government Association (SGA) wanted all students to have a voice on campus. More than 100 elected senators represented the university community.

"I really like being involved in decisions for the greater good of the school, and I like representing students," said sophomore class president John Sutter. "I like being the voice for the students. I really like making sure their voices are heard by the administration."

The members attended weekly Senate meetings on Tuesday evenings, in addition to their individual committee meetings. They made decisions on everything from how much money different campus organizations should receive, to what types of food to include at the biannual "SGA Serves You at D-Hall" nights.

SGA was divided into eight committees: academic affairs, communications and internal affairs, community affairs, diversity affairs, finance, food services, legislative action and student services. Students voted for representatives to Class Council, which represented each academic year, and the Executive Council, which represented the student body.

Student Body President senior Larson Thune joined the organization the previous year because he "wanted to have a first hand role in improving the student body."

"My goal is to bring more awareness to the questions students are asking about," said Thune. Throughout the year, guest speakers went to Senate meetings to talk about student concerns such as voter registration.

Senior Caitlin Briska, the chair of the legislative action commit-

tee, said SGA's largest project was focused on the fall election. More than 1,600 students registered to vote and applied for absentee ballots. SGA also organized a mock presidential debate and a bus service to the polls.

"Our voter registration project was a lot of work, but affected a lot of students," said Briska.

Many members, including sophomore Laura Spinks, learned leadership by being involved with SGA.

"I plan to use the skills that I've learned here later in my life," said Spinks, who wanted to be involved in government in the future.

Sutter agreed, and said he learned how to work with groups of students and debate effectively. "You don't really get the whole scope of being a leader until you're actually practicing it," he said.

Thune was impressed by the dedication and involvement of the senators. He said he had been in other groups that were not as structured and efficient.

"This is a cool experience to work with an organization full of highly motivated student leaders," he said.

Throughout the week, members could be found in the SGA office in Taylor Hall. Whether planning SGA events or just doing homework, it was a busy place.

"I sometimes feel like I live in the office," said Sophomore Class Treasurer Brock Wallace.

SGA was a large time commitment, but was worth it for most members. As Sutter listed his weekly meetings and projects, he said, "You want to put time into it to reach out to constituents. It's also what you put into it."





# University Organ

Focused on providing opportunities to learn and apply marketing principles, Madison Marketing Association was a nonprofit organization that operated independently from the marketing department at the university.

Its main event was the Etiquette Banquet, which provided networking opportunities for its members.



## Madison Marketing

**Front Row:** Emma Lavery, Blythe Klippstein, Heather Hancock; **Back Row:** Laura Harrington, Michael Fleming, Casey Fagan

The Mozaic Dance Club provided both men and women with the opportunity to express themselves through dance in a team atmosphere.

Members held a hip-hop clinic every third Monday of each month, encouraging dancers of all levels to learn something new.



## Mozaic Dance

**Front Row:** Sandra Tran, Maya Fiellin, Sue Kim, Zena Saadeh, Katelyn Johnson, Leila Saadeh; **Second Row:** Rachel Schmitt, Meredith Routt, Reza Mina, Kendra Burek, Rebecca Lesnoff, Melissa Swaringen; **Back Row:** Mary Sheehan, Karlyn Williams, Nicole Sanders, Lindsay Harmon, Justine Noel, Nideria Brown



The NAACP worked to educate the public about the adverse effects of racial discrimination. Unity Weekend was the organization's main event, a series of programs that worked to bring together campus organizations and their members.

## NAACP

**Front Row:** Tracy Lanier, Krishna Ingram, Ashley Smith; **Back Row:** Alan Vanell, Tanique Carter, Sean Smith, Stephanie Reese, Crystal Prigmore



National Society of Minorities in Hospitality, established at the university in 1998, was a business-based club that addressed the diversity and the career development of its members. The goal of the club was to develop and strengthen a working relationship between student members and professionals in the hospitality industry.

## National Society of Minorities in Hospitality

**Front Row:** Emily O'Day, Victoria Rama, Thanh Lam, Kierra Jones, Erika Maxberry, Aisha Alami; **Second Row:** Jesse Wasserman, Dennis Romero, Ashley Pond, Ambrish Patel, Sharnell Myles, Jeremy Bramow, Deborah Barnett, Amy Hunt; **Back Row:** Christopher Shockey, Chirag Patel, Allen Green, Lucy Romeo, Brittany Rosato, Frank Fleming, Anmol Sidhu, Katrina Crammer, Cathy Snyder (Advisor)





## Fighting Among Friends

**SOPHOMORE** Michael Foote takes a quiet moment before his gold belt test. Ranks were differentiated by color and degree. *Photo courtesy of Julia Schoelwer*



**CLUB** members prepare for their belt tests in November. Correctly performing patterns and breakings allowed members to move up in rank. *Photo courtesy of Julia Schoelwer*



## Tae Kwan Do Club

**Front Row:** Emilee Wirshing, Matthew Silver, Shannon Nelson, Sachiko Hanamura, Alexandra Kelley, Dana Jacobsen; **Second Row:** Julia Schoelwer, Anthony Balady, Ryan Farrell, Peter Chan, Jon Asgari James Morrissey; **Back Row:** Adam Moyer, Leo Dove, Sean Yeisley, Piro Polo, Joshua Schuchman, Adam Wermus



Senior  
Bryan Graham  
James Morrissey  
for the hit. Tae Kwan Do was a  
modern martial art from Korea  
that combined self-defense,  
sport and exercise. Photo  
courtesy of Julia Schoelwer

By Matt Johnson

# Fighting Among Friends

The Tae Kwan Do Club shared their knowledge of martial arts

For many people, Tae Kwon Do was seen as a cool way to fight the bad guys. For the members of the university's club, it was about learning the art and making friends.

One difference that set the Tae Kwon Do Club apart from other clubs was that the members were actually learning the art, and were each working to improve their own skills. A professional instructor, John Price, led each meeting along with other students and worked with the members to help them move up in the ranks.

"We try to run [the meetings] as close to a [Tae Kwan Do] school as possible," said junior Julia Schoelwer, who first taught Tae Kwan Do while still in high school. "We have actual forms and combinations that people need to learn. We teach them proper martial arts. We have belt tests and belt ceremonies."

Teaching its members and helping them perfect the art was the club's focus. Senior Joshua Schuchman, president of the club, said they were constantly practicing.

"If you can do something slow, we then make it fast," said Schuchman. "If you are fast, we make it smooth and accurate. It all kind of builds."

Another aspect that the members enjoyed was the atmosphere and the opportunity to interact with one another.

"You're getting together to learn how to fight," said senior Dana Jacobsen, who described the atmosphere of the club as fun and friendly. "That's pretty cool, that's different."

"We're a very close club, we hang out with each other," said Schoe-

lwer. "When someone's sick, we look after them."

Schuchman liked the respect members had for each other. "I love the 'Yes, sir' attitude," he said. "So often we forget the simple courtesy of respect in life. A few hours a week where everyone is sir or ma'am is a good thing."

Not only were the members respectful, but they also took what they learned and grew from it personally.

"I think Tae Kwon Do is great," said Jacobsen. "It definitely boosts your confidence, and teaches you to think on your own because you have to be able to be motivated yourself to want to learn. I like that it gives you confidence to be able to tackle the next belt."

New for the club this year was a practice facility built in the basement of Godwin Hall.

"The University Recreation Center (UREC) recently took three of the old racquetball courts in Godwin and knocked down the walls between them and has built us a room," said Schoelwer. "It's really nice. It gives us a place to hang punching bags. We're going to have lots of space, nice wooden floors, mirrors... it's beautiful. We're very excited about it."

Overall, the members of the Tae Kwon Do club not only improved their skills within the art, but also changed as people.

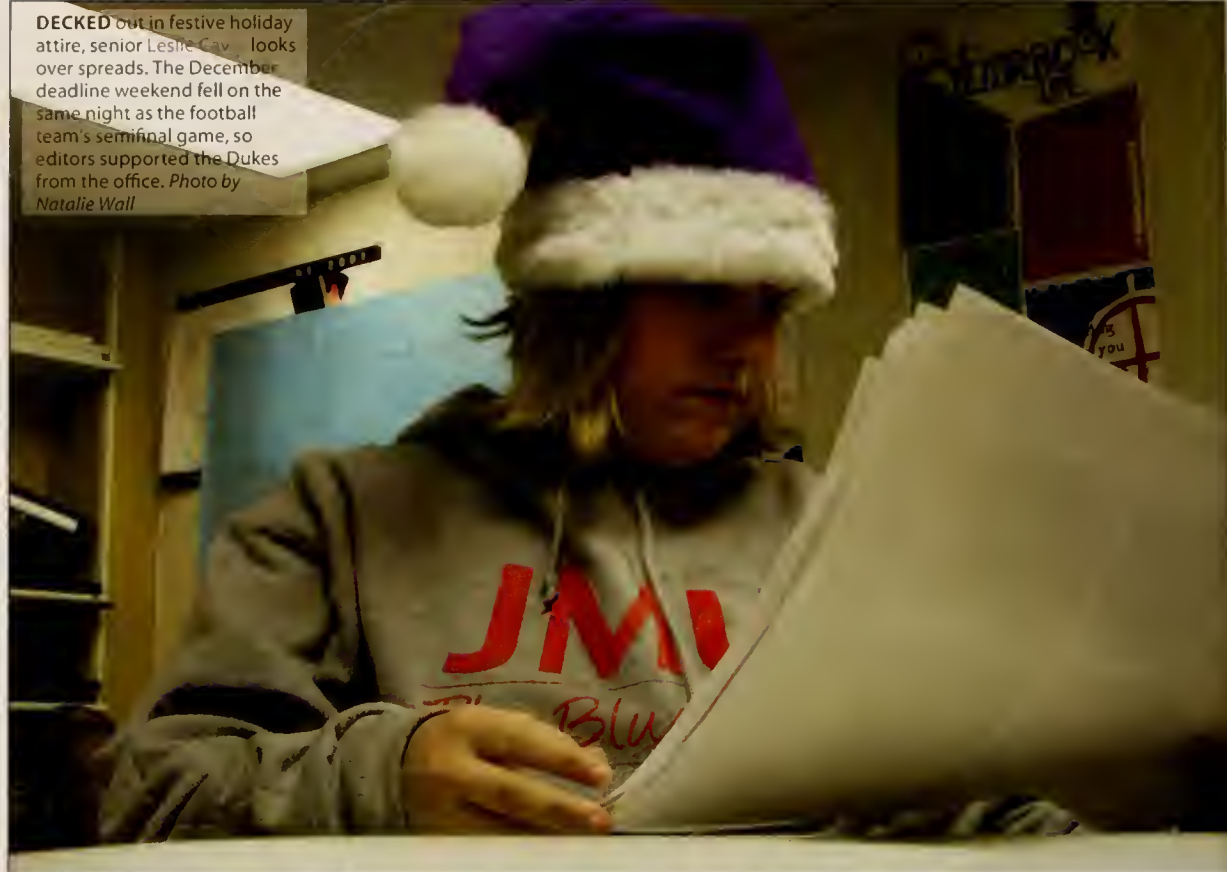
"I love this club," said Schuchman. "It has opened my eyes to a whole way of going about things, like how to work as a team and still excel on your own. I love how people change during their time here. They grow while training, it's just so cool to watch."

Tae Kwan Do Club 305





DECKED out in festive holiday attire, senior Leslie Cavin looks over spreads. The December deadline weekend fell on the same night as the football team's semifinal game, so editors supported the Dukes from the office. Photo by Natalie Wall



By Lianne Palmatier

## Year In Review

The Bluestone staff worked together to create more than just a scrapbook

During the last week of classes in the spring, the telltale yellow Penske truck made its way around campus. *The Bluestone* had arrived. Students pored over the yearbook to see what was featured and which pictures made it in.

Behind the scenes, writers, photographers, designers and editors had been working on the book since March 2008. With deadlines, stress and diligence, the staff made sure the yearbook would be available to the student body in the spring.

The editorial board worked 14-hour deadline days to organize a whirlwind of photographs, stories and layouts that cluttered *The Bluestone's* office. By the end of the process, students had a 400-page book that represented their year at school, with little knowledge of the initial puzzle the editors and staff had to deal with.

The puzzle began with an application process that led to students being assigned several tasks to produce the final product. Deadlines throughout the year kept the staff intensely busy. The number of pages due at times seemed never-ending, but the editors ensured that all pages were submitted on time, a feat that they were proud of.

"We all pull together to get things done," said junior Sarah Chain, copy editor of *The Bluestone*. "I'll probably feel like a proud mother when it finally comes out in the spring."

The staff worked hard throughout the year to produce a magazine-style narrative of life around the university. Students who had never been on staff learned first-hand what production consisted of, including the time commitment and the importance of being a representative for *The Bluestone*.

"This is my first year on *The Bluestone*," said Chain. "I did my high school yearbook for a bit when I was a freshman, but it was nothing like this. Being an editor is a huge time commitment, and I feel much more invested in the book."

Invested in making the book dynamic, staff and editors played a vital role in making sure deadlines were met.

"This is my first year on ed board, so things were very different," said senior Leslie Cavin, creative director. "I feel like I have a much bigger part in this book and I get to see the whole thing put together for the first time. Before, being a designer, I would just design the spread and then not see it again until I saw the book in the spring."

Despite the stress, the staff banded together to accomplish the goal of giving the student body a book of memories. Because of this, friendships developed and made dealing with deadlines a little easier.

"I've begun to form a really close bond with the other ed board girls," said junior Rebecca Schneider, managing editor. "You learn a lot about each other, especially after a 14-hour day for deadline. We can get pretty silly, or sometimes annoyed, but all in all, we complement each other very well."

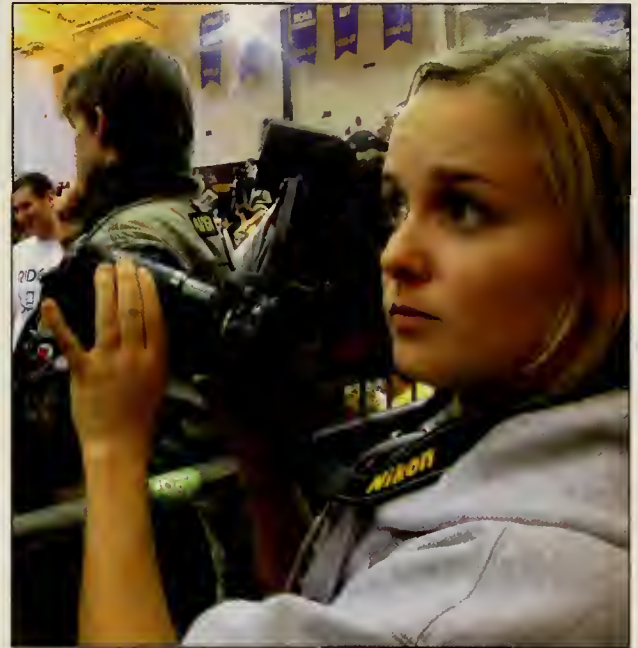
*The Bluestone* staff also had the opportunity to travel and make connections with others to swap ideas for future yearbooks.

"This summer, I had the chance to go to New Orleans for a yearbook workshop sponsored by our publisher, Taylor," said Schneider. "It's awesome to come together with all of the other 'yearbook nerds,' who turned out to be some of the coolest people I've met in my travels."

All in all, the staff came together to produce a keepsake that students could enjoy.



**TRUSTY** red pen in hand, senior Joanna Brenner reads over the third edits of an organization story. As editor in chief, Brenner had the final say on all copy and design. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



**WITH** a borrowed lens from *The Bluestone* office, junior Rebecca Schneider stands in the press pit at the Obama rally on campus. Staff members were given access alongside national media in the first rally by a presidential candidate in Harrisonburg since 1858. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



**Front Row:** Lucy Romeo, Colleen Mahoney, Kaylene Posey, Joanna Brenner, Sarah Chain, Leslie Cavin, Natalie Wall, Rebecca Schneider; **Second Row:** Caitlin Harrison, Katie Thisdell, Kristin McGregor, Parvina Mamtova, Caroline Blanzaco, Angela Barbosa, Megan Mori; **Back Row:** Steph Synoracki, Rebeca Leggett, Matthew Johnson, Casey Smith, Julia Simcox, Lauren Babbage, Shaina Allen

*The Bluestone*

*The Bluestone 307* 



# University Organ

Dedicated to decreasing rape and sexual assault on campus, members of One in Four presented a one-hour workshop to educate men on how to help a woman recover from a rape experience.

The all-male group presented programs to residence halls and other organizations.



## One in Four

**Front Row:** Paul Perruzza, Peter Mooney, Duncan Campbell, Stephen Hunt; **Back Row:** Christopher Wood, Stephen McGinley, Andrew Hamilton Reese, Jaleal Sanjak, Michael De France, Jason Wallace

Providing an opportunity to engage with other students who share their faith, members of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) sponsored social and spiritual activities. OCF was a partnering organization with the Interfaith Coalition on campus.



## Orthodox Christian Fellowship

**Front row:** Nora Turner, Al-Sherkia, Amanda Predel, Samantha Syiek; **Back Row:** Thomas Manuel, Sam Williams, Peter Chekin



Five albums boasted the musical talent of the university's popular coed a cappella group. Gaining new members by audition each semester, The Overtones encouraged anyone with an interest in singing to audition.

## Overtones

**Front Row:** Mary Margaret Walsh, Gigi Galiffa, Shannon Spadt, Brittany Young, Laura Alderson, Sarah Smith; **Back Row:** Daniel Snyder, John Stafford, Michael Shields Jr., Bobby Creedon, Miguel Albornoz, David Rea, David Little



Established in 1997, the Pre-Physical Therapy Society assisted undergraduate students in gaining knowledge about undergraduate programs and the field of physical therapy. The club hosted an annual physical therapy expo, giving students a chance to network with representatives from graduate schools.

## Pre-Physical Therapy Society

**Front Row:** Alaina Hesse, Will Jacob, Samantha Serone, Lauren Pierce; **Back Row:** Hallie Snyder, Qlaneisha Green, Marielle Bonaroti







SOPPING wet, junior Michael Haas grabs his bike. Haas competed in the Angels Race Triathlon in Lynchburg, Va., held April 13. Photo courtesy of Emily Haller

By Casey Smith

# The Amazing Race

Members of the Triathlon Club swam, sprinted and pedaled to the finish line

Athletes in the Triathlon Club were committed. Students ran, biked and swam in all kinds of terrains. While triathlons may have sounded intimidating to some, others had no qualms about jumping in the pool, getting out on the other side to put on their sneakers, and pedaling their way to the finish line.

"Not every triathlon was an epic struggle," said sophomore Noelle Burgess. "The Ironman races that were on television were insane, but people could do several different lengths of triathlons [at the university], including the sprint, the Olympic length, the Half-Ironman and Ironman. Personally, I enjoyed the Olympic length the best."

Triathlons catered to many different athletes. Some students grew up swimming for their high school's or neighborhood's summer teams; some ran track or cross country in high school, and some trained on their bikes a few hours a week. Whatever a person's background, triathlon had something to offer him or her. All the athlete had to do was fill in the gaps.

"I liked training for the swim the most, and I performed the best on it because I swam in high school," said Burgess. "Swimming in a triathlon was very different compared to a pool with lane lines, but my background helped me either way."

While almost every athlete had a specialty in a triathlon, each had a portion that needed improving.

"I had to train extremely hard for the running because it had never come naturally to me," said senior Christina Wolf. "If I missed a single day I felt like I had lost a year's worth of training—ridiculous, but it was true."

While some already knew parts of a triathlon would be hard for them to complete, others had never even tried some things.

"Before Triathlons, I had never even touched a road bike," said Burgess. "That part was always the hardest for me."

Triathlon Club drew in athletes not only because it provided a good source of exercise, but also because of the strong bond the team formed when doing such strenuous activity. When athletes struggled, they looked to one another for support, and more often than not, the person beside them was willing to help.

"I love the unity that triathlons bring," said senior Emily Haller, president of the club. "Not everyone can say they have done a triathlon, but those who have show respect for everyone."

Once athletes completed a triathlon, they realized there was no other sport like the one they had decided to take on.

"Triathlons were not a sport only a few special elite racers could do," said Haller. "It was a sport with a huge learning curve. It was a sport where every type of athlete was shown and respected. If someone had the determination to do a race, then that in and of itself, was very special."

Members of the club trained every day of the week, but never forgot how much they loved the sport they were working so hard for.

"I loved arriving the morning of the race to see bikes, athletes lined up for body marking, and the sun just beginning to peak out from the horizon," said graduate student Julie Gliesing. "I loved everything about the sport; training outdoors, living an active lifestyle, and experiencing the camaraderie among athletes. It was important to enjoy this sport; otherwise, it was pointless."

"The most important thing was to enjoy what we were doing," said Gliesing. "We loved triathlons. We wouldn't have done them if we didn't."





**HANDS** raised in enthusiasm, members of the Triathlon Club cheer on their teammates as they finish the race. Club members participated in the Angels Race Triathlon as part of the College Challenge, which drew college clubs from across Virginia and the Carolinas. Photo courtesy of Emily Haller



**Front Row:** Emily Haller, Mae Hynes, Julie Fry, Jacqueline Palmer, Kathleen Thompson, Megan Lewis; **Second Row:** Mike Jones, Stephanie Larson, Nicole Sanders, Eric Wagner, Katherine Welling, Andrea Brown, Dana Corriere; **Back Row:** Patrick Watral, Chris Brown, Tyler Steel, Mike Kern, Greg Bove, David Farber, Mike Bock

*Triathlon Club*





# University Organi

Actively encouraging students to become involved in department activities was the Psychology Club's main initiative. For those interested in job opportunities in psychology, the club also offered a chance to learn about available occupational and education opportunities.



## Psychology Club

**Front Row:** Kailyn Lavoie, Kathy Wacks, Laura Zinn, Oksana Naumenko, Daisy Silva; **Back Row:** Shannon Taube, Robert Agler, Craig Abrahamson, David O'Connor, Elise Freeman

Sigma Gamma Rho and their programs were hallmarked by public service, education of youth and leadership development. The Lambda Iota Chapter went inactive in 1997, but was reactivated in spring 2007.



## Sigma Gamma Rho

**Front Row:** Candace Cottrell, Chervon Moore, Karla Smith, Victoria Gaines, Ashley Clarke; **Back Row:** Ashley Perry, Britnie Green, Rashonda Roberson, Jerrell Green, Angel Brockenbrough



The Students for Minority Outreach was a student-run organization that promoted the university as a progressive and ethnically diverse campus. Its members worked with the Admissions Office and participated in Take-A-Look Day and Prospective Students Weekend.

## Students for Minority Outreach

**Front Row:** Telmyr Lee, Shayna Scoggins, Adriane Lanier, Tiara McKeever, Diachelle Crawley; **Back Row:** Ivaco Clarke, Angela Saunders, Jessie Salvador, Rashaunda Jackson



The only band sorority at the university, Tau Beta Sigma promoted an appreciation of band music through recognition, leadership and education. Any student enrolled in a university music ensemble was eligible for membership.

## Tau Beta Sigma

**Front Row:** Melanie Flick, Julia Barnes, Brittany Knight, Amanda Banks, Amanda Bell, Geraldine Fiesta; **Second Row:** Christopher McCharen, Lee Anne Ward, Grace McMahan, Amanda Rummel, Kariann Farenholtz, Sarah French, Sarah Klinger; **Back Row:** Genevieve Clarkson, Chelsea Cockburn, Danielle Liette, Kayla Mittelman, Emily Long, Hilary Rocheleau





# University Organ

Part of the national union of Vietnamese Student Associations (VSA), the university's chapter promoted and celebrated the history of Vietnam. Its premiere event was the annual VSA Culture Show in the spring.



## Vietnamese Student Association

**Front Row:** Thanh-Thuy Nguyen, Natalie Ngu, Cathleen Nguyen, My-Ha Moon, Michelle Huynh, Thanh Nguyen, Christine Lam, Han Nguyen, Karen Sin; **Back Row:** Jacob Albert, Faheem Hamidzada, Minh Nguyen, Michael Nguyen, Jonathan Belmonte, Jason Chung, Julie Ha, Michael Wu, Alida Hunyh

Reaching out to students and the community was the purpose of Wesley Foundation. Members balanced community service in Sister 2 Sister and Brother 2 Brother with social gatherings like their annual Root Beer Keg Party.



## Wesley Foundation

**Front Row:** Lacy Kegley, Lindsey Merritt, Christina Vandenbergh, Natalie Godwin, Melanie Demaree, Kimberly Campbell; **Second Row:** Brent Levy, Jenna Nelson, Tana Wright, Rachel Drummond, Stephanie Garrett, Annalisa Adams, Danielle Hodgkins, Rebecca Thomas, Jaynell Stoneman; **Back Row:** Matt Leslie, Bobby Dunne, Brayden Zanks, Jamie Jackson, Daniel Sumner, Andrew Hijjeh, Drew Richard, Mollie Brooks, Mike Klein



Begun as a coed team in the early 1990s and later divided into separate men's and women's teams in 1998, Women's Club Water Polo invited anyone to join and play on an intercollegiate level. "Have fun and play hard" were their only requirements.

## Women's Water Polo

**Front Row:** Chelsea Verdin, Julie Fry, Rachel Zimmerman, Jillian Pope, Allison Spangler, Emily DeMeo; **Second Row:** Katie Jenkins, Theresa Smith, Katie Bain, Kelly Foelber, Alli Chaplin, Heidi Lindenfelser, Lauren Rotsted; **Back Row:** Shannon McKernin, Amanda Sharp, Kelsey Karach, Allie Krafft, Colleen Callahan, Tiffany Mothershead



Created by students in the 1990s, the WXJM station promoted alternative music genres while encouraging students to better understand the basics of radio. Those who completed the DJ training process were eligible to become members of the club.

WXJM

**Front Row:** Claire Kita, Elizabeth Bihn, Sarah Delia, Krystal Holst, Foster Hardiman, Brigitte Roussos, Rachel Mulheren; **Back Row:** Ryan Auvil, Eric Wueslewald, Jason Flory, Carrie Brothers, Amanda Phillips, Jessica Lonett, Parker Girard, Brett Abrams, Josh Mead







Photo courtesy of Sports Media

# Sports



Photo by Amy Gwaltney

Photo by Amy Gwaltney







Baseball 320

Softball 322

Women's Lacrosse 324

Women's Tennis 326

Men's Tennis 328

Track & Field 330

# Spring Sports

Photo courtesy of Sports Media

Spring Sports 319





# Baseball

# We Are The Champions

By Casey Smith

Players piled high in the middle of the baseball diamond after winning the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) tournament against Towson University. The men's varsity baseball team had entered the tournament seeded second. After placing runner-up in the tournament for five years, the baseball team won its sixth consecutive game to clinch the 2008 CAA Championship title at Brooks Field in Wilmington, N.C. The Dukes were the only team to win more than four games in the tournament. Led by senior Kurt Houck, who pitched a four-hitter, the team beat Towson 6-1, winning the first title since the team began participating in the CAA tournament 23 years ago.

"The most memorable moment was when we won the championship game and had the dog pile on the field," said Coach Joe "Spanky" McFarland. "It was so special because we had never won before."

After winning the CAA Championship, the team earned an automatic bid to the 2008 NCAA Baseball Championship. The Dukes went on to the elimination game of the Raleigh Regional, where they lost to University of South Carolina 7-5. The team ended its season with a record of 39-19, the seventh-highest win total in program history.

"Even though we lost the game, there was a feeling that no matter what the score, our team could hang with the best and compete at a very high level," said junior Jason Kuhn, a pitcher for the Dukes. "If there was any way to go out, that was it. They had to earn that walk-off, which is far better than us just giving it to them. There was a 'never quit' attitude that we brought into games."

Despite their success on the field, the players managed to stay grounded.

"We were all really close. There were not many 'cliques' on our team. Each person could hang out with everyone and nobody really cared," said Kuhn. "We were a team—a good one at that. From the social guys to the shy ones, country to punk rockers, preppy to the weird ones—we all fit in together and fought as a single unit. Each player had a role and everyone held that person accountable for that role."

Coach McFarland added, "the team chemistry was outstanding. We actually did some team-building activities outside of the field."

Pitchers Trevor Knight, Munson and Turner Phelps were named Freshman All-Americans when three different national organizations released their post-season honors. It was the second consecutive season that three Dukes were named Freshman All-Americans.

The Dukes also produced a major league baseball pick when sophomore Steven Caseres, first baseman, was picked in the ninth round of the draft by the Los Angeles Dodgers organization.

The Dukes had a season the players would not soon forget. After being down by eight runs in the last round, the team stormed back to make it to the finals, which led to victory and celebration after the game. *Information compiled from JMU sports.com*

## Spotlight

Joe Lake  
Graduate  
Kinesiology  
Elkridge, MD



### Statistics:

- .285 batting average
- Played 135 games
- Started in 113 games

### Honors:

- Tied for sixth in the CAA in hits (76)
- Tied for seventh in sacrifice flies (4)
- MVP of fall Purple and Gold Series



**First Row:** David Herbek, Alex Valadja, Shaun Villenave, Joe Lake, Mike Fabiaschi, McKinnon Langston, Trevor Knight, James Weiner; **Second Row:** John Mincone, Matt Browning, Alex Foltz, Brett Garner, Trevor Kaylid, Kevin Munson, Turner Phelps, Dustin Crouch, Matt Townsend; **Third Row:** Chris Johnson, Jason Kuhn, Steven Caseres, Brett Sellers, Kurt Houck, Lee Bukowski, Kyle Hoffman, Justin Wood, J.C. Menna; **Fourth row:** Director of Baseball Operations Chris Keltz, Assistant Coach Ted White, Head Coach "Spanky" McFarland, Assistant Coach Jay Sullenger, Assistant Coach Josiah Jones





**RACING** to strike out his opponent, senior Brett Garner rushes the ball to third base. Garner hit a home run and scored twice against the University of Delaware in game three. *Photo courtesy of Sports Media*



**FOLLOWING** through on his pitch, graduate Trevor Kaylid throws a fastball to the hitter. Kaylid notched his first win of the season by beating Virginia Tech, where he went five innings. *Photo courtesy of Sports Media*

# Scoreboard

## JMU

5	South Carolina	7
13	Charlotte	12
2	North Carolina State	6
6	Towson	1
18	George Mason	14
9	George Mason	4
6	Old Dominion	1
6	Northeastern	4
10	Northeastern	6
2	Northeastern	10
10	Marist	3
4	UNC Wilmington	23
2	UNC Wilmington	7
6	UNC Wilmington	11
8	East Tennessee State	4
6	Radford	7
7	Radford	9
13	Va. Commonwealth	6
9	Va. Commonwealth	7
4	Va. Commonwealth	6
8	George Washington	5
10	Liberty	7
5	George Mason	3
2	George Mason	7
4	Virginia Military	6
13	Delaware	7
8	Delaware	7
7	Delaware	5
4	Liberty	0
3	Longwood	4
15	Longwood	3
7	Radford	3
7	Hofstra	5
6	Hofstra	2
6	Hofstra	4
8	Virginia Military	4
11	Virginia Tech	1
2	Old Dominion	6
10	Old Dominion	19
8	Old Dominion	7
3	Stony Brook	16
3	Liberty	2
16	Towson	1
5	Towson	4
7	Towson	6
20	George Washington	5
10	Virginia Tech	3
8	Georgia State	3
5	Georgia State	1
16	Georgia State	5
10	Tennessee	3
12	William & Mary	14
11	William & Mary	7
7	William & Mary	6
5	Radford	9
3	Binghamton	1
8	Binghamton	7
0	Binghamton	4





# Scoreboard

## JMU OPP

0	Cleveland State	8
3	UNC-Greensboro	1
5	Niagara	3
3	UMBC	4
2	Georgetown	1
2	Elon	1
15	Binghamton	1
6	E. Michigan	1
0	UCLA	8
6	CSU Bakersfield	2
2	Oregon	7
0	Fresno State	3
0	Maryland	3
4	Maryland	7
5	USC-Upstate	7
3	Princeton	0
0	North Carolina	3
4	Virginia	0
1	Virginia	2
4	Pittsburgh	1
4	Canisius	3
5	Akron	2
2	Pittsburgh	13
7	Canisius	4
0	Hofstra	9
3	Hofstra	0
1	Hofstra	3
3	Radford	4
3	Radford	12
4	Georgia State	0
7	Georgia State	8
14	Georgia State	0
4	Liberty	5
4	Liberty	2
6	Towson	8
0	Towson	6
8	GWU	0
6	GWU	0
2	Drexel	3
4	Drexel	1
6	Drexel	5
4	UNC Wilmington	2
9	UNC Wilmington	1
11	UNC Wilmington	3
2	George Mason	0
6	George Mason	5
3	George Mason	0
5	Delaware	2
4	Delaware	1
4	Delaware	1
2	Georgia State	1
5	Hofstra	4
3	Hofstra	1
0	Hofstra	3



SWIFTLY swinging the bat, Julia Dominguez was the all-time softball leader in home runs. Photo courtesy of Sports Media



MAINTAINING hand-eye coordination, junior Chel'sea Ryan prepares to catch the ball. Ryan was a valued pinch runner and scored a run in semifinals of the CAA Championships. Photo courtesy of Sports Media



# Fighting Finish

By Beth Principi

Bases were not the only things the softball team stole all season. The university's softball team also stole the spotlight in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) with an overall record of 32-22, a second-place CAA tournament finish and a third place finish in the CAA Championship.

Perhaps the most predominant and astounding accomplishment of this young, seven-year program was a 13-game winning streak, which trampled over seven teams and lasted a total of 32 days. This streak, which led the team to its first CAA title game, was cut short by a loss to Hofstra University, who was ranked first overall and went on to win its seventh consecutive championship.

The fighting Dukes did not go down easily in the last two games of the season against Hofstra. Facing elimination, Hofstra held on as the Dukes tried to shut them out, resulting in the third longest game in the university's softball history. The game ended in the bottom of the 11th inning when Hofstra hit a home run, winning the game and clinching the CAA title.

Even though the Dukes fell short of the crown, they were more determined than ever to win in the following season.

"It was one of the hardest losses I've ever experienced. Getting that far, playing 11 innings, and putting so much into the game, it was a terrible feeling coming in second. The loss makes me want to win it even more next year," said senior Kaitlyn Wernsing, the

Dukes' second baseman.

The new softball program showed improvement year after year. Coach Katie Flynn had been the head coach since the program was created seven years prior, and had been building up the program year-round.

"During the summer, everyone on the team is given a conditioning packet and a lifting packet. In addition to this I usually pitch three to four days a week," said senior Meredith Felts, star pitcher for the Dukes.

"My off-season training is probably the toughest training I go through all year," said senior Amber Kirk, the teams' third baseman.

When the lady Dukes finally did get to step on the diamond, they were more than prepared. Before each game, they would listen to music and even bust a move to get hyped for the game. Moments before leaving the locker room, the team huddled together to pray and give thanks for "keeping everyone on both teams healthy and for allowing us to play the sport at the level we do," recalled Kirk.

The season was a monumental one for the lady Dukes, and even though it was not a perfect ending, there was much hard work to be proud of. With so many overwhelming accomplishments both individually and as a team, the softball team paved the way for great improvements.

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*



**Front Row:** Lauren Robison, Julie Smith, Shannon Moxey, Lauren Mernin, Jenny Clohan, Courtney Simons, Amber Kirk, Melissa Hill **Back Row:** Jenn Chavez, Katie Spitzer, Kaitlyn Wernsing, Brittney Lyddane, Julia Dominguez, Chel'sea Ryan, Meredith Felts, Katie Cochran, Shannon Outman, Brittney Dyson, Kendra Johnson

## Spotlight

**Meredith Felts**  
Senior  
Sports Management  
Greenville, NC



### Statistics:

- 397 strikeouts
- .177 batting average

### Honors:

- University's all-time leader in wins (43), strikeouts (397) and shutouts (12)
- Single-season record holder in strikeouts (152), wins (17) and shutouts (5)
- Two-time All-CAA selection





# Under Pressure

By Lianne Palmatier

For 40 years, women had come together at the university to dominate ground balls, check opponents' sticks, and avoid the crease while scoring. For the 30 women on the lacrosse team this season, keeping the winning tradition alive turned out to be a challenge. Despite the obstacles, the team stuck together and refused to crack under pressure.

"Overall, I feel that our season was like a rollercoaster ride," said graduate Julie Stone, a midfielder. "We were up and down with our success."

The team ended the season with eight wins, after losing tough matches to The College of William & Mary and University of Delaware by one goal. In fact, eight of the 17 games were determined by one last scoring attempt, only sometimes resulting in the Dukes' favor. Stone managed to score the final goal against Stanford University, a proud accomplishment.

"We had been struggling to come out on top in tight games, but we finally made it happen in [that] game," said Stone.

Focusing on the games ahead was tough for the players rebounding from difficult losses. "The best way to deal with any of the setbacks we experienced during the season was to put them behind us and keep looking forward," said junior Meredith Torr, a defender. "For a good part of the season, I was still really focused on the first two losses we had against Dartmouth and Yale. Every

time a game didn't turn out well I would think that it had something to do with us losing those games...it's so stressful to play that way."

Not dwelling on losses encouraged the team to prepare for upcoming games, occasionally alleviating competitive stress with an impromptu dance party. "As a team we prepared for tough games by watching film and going over scouting reports," said Stone. "Personally, during pregame I always tried to relax by enjoying watching my other teammates dance around the locker room."

By staying focused on an overall team goal and not getting overwhelmed by the competition, the team went on to beat Longwood University, Virginia Tech and Colonial Athletic Association opponents Hofstra University and Drexel University. Balancing the excitement with a focus on achieving their objectives led to a positive 40th season for the Dukes.

"It was great to be a part of such an important landmark in JMU lacrosse history," said Torr. "It's easy to focus on the things that didn't go well during the season because it didn't turn out how we had hoped, but I think we learned so much more about mental toughness, who we are as players, and who we are as a team that it actually helped to build our character. Celebrating 40 years of JMU lacrosse this season reminded me again what a special program we have and how lucky I am to be a part of it."

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*

## Spotlight

**Julie Stone**  
Graduate  
IDLS  
Annandale, VA



### Statistics:

- Games played- 69
- Games started- 64
- Goals- 79
- Assists-13

### Honors:

- All-conference second team
- Team captain
- IWLCA Academic Honor Roll
- Conference Commissioner's Academic Award
- JMU Athletic Director Scholar Athlete



**First row:** Kiersten McLouth, Jackie Gateau, Lauren Bradley, Brooke Rhodey, Lucy Lynch, Team Captain Jessica Brophy; **Second row:** Assistant Coach Lindsay Lewis, Head Coach Shelley Klaes-Bawcombe, Kim Griffin, Mary Fran Shelton, Brigid Strain, Natasha Fuchs, Team Captain Annie Wagner, Kelly Wetzel, Team Captain Julie Stone, Team Captain Emily Haller, Alex Menghetti; **Third row:** Assistant Coach Jessica Wilk, Jaime Dardine, Jessie Heisterman, Meghan Wienecke, Janice Wagner, Caitlin Sullivan, Mary Kate Lomady, Lexy Schwabenland; **Fourth row:** Morgan Kimberly, Meredith Torr, Liz Walsh, Michelle Maier, Jess Boshko, Susan Lines, Morgan Kelly, Diana Apel, Team Manager James Reddish



**BLOCKING** a shot on goal, sophomore Alex Menghetti defends Duke territory. In 2007, Menghetti was selected as an all-star at the U.S.W.L.A National Tournament. Photo courtesy of Sports Media

## Scoreboard

JMU		OPP
11	England	6
8	Dartmouth	9
9	Yale	10
16	Longwood	5
10	Maryland	16
12	Virginia Tech	8
11	Richmond	10
10	Princeton	17
9	Virginia	11
10	Stanford	9
10	William & Mary	11
13	Old Dominion	5
12	Delaware	13
7	Towson	12
10	Hofstra	8
10	Drexel	9
10	George Mason	11



**IN** the process of defending the goal, senior Mary Fran Shelton prepares to cradle the ball and deflect it away from the net. Shelton was a JMU Athletic Director Scholar Athlete. Photo courtesy of Sports Media







**STRATEGICALLY** aiming her serve, senior Anna Khoor prepares to smash the ball. Khoor was team captain and CAA Player of the Week in April 2008. Photo courtesy of Sports Media



**AFTER** hitting a successful backhand, sophomore Rebecca Erickson watches the ball soar over the net. Erickson played No. 1 singles and doubles for the Dukes. Photo courtesy of Sports Media

## Scoreboard

JMU		OPP
1	Campbell	4
0	VCU	5
3	Hampton	2
0	Old Dominion	7
6	Norfolk State	1
6	North Dakota	1
7	LaSalle	0
6	Creighton	1
5	Evansville	2
4	Howard	3
1	Richmond	6
1	Liberty	6
2	Longwood	5
1	Radford	6
2	Hofstra	5
1	Delaware	6

# For The Luv Of The Game

By Bethany Blevins

Women's

Tennis

With a group of only eight players, the women's tennis team faced a difficult season with tough competition. The thought of facing off with top rivals like The College of William & Mary and University of Delaware, however, did not discourage the players from enjoying their season and becoming close as a team.

The team met for two hours six times a week and also lifted weights for 45 minutes a week, adding in various workout classes. Due to a small roster and frequent practices, a close chemistry united the team.

"Our team was the closest that it has ever been this past season," said junior Anna Khor. "We all can rely completely on each other for anything." The ladies stayed close by meeting outside of practices to watch movies, have potluck dinners and enjoy one another's company.

The team cooperated to achieve similar goals on the court. "Coming into the season we really tried to stay focused and keep our eye on the ball," said junior Barrett Donner. "We set personal goals and goals for the team... anything from staying positive to double faulting only twice a set. We had a great team with a lot of gifted

athletes, but when it comes to competing, tennis is an intensely mental sport. In my opinion, you have to be on your game, not only physically, but almost more mentally." The team fought to obtain a good standing in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) tournament and earn recognition for its ability.

"The most challenging match during the season was probably at the CAA tournament when we had to play William & Mary in the second round after beating George Mason University," said Donner.

The Dukes finished eighth in the CAA Championships after losing to William & Mary at the Huntington Park Tennis Center in Newport News, Va. Despite this loss, the team appreciated the season together and cherished the strong bond of friendship among the group. The team was also happy to announce that teammates sophomores Rebecca Erickson and Kristin Nimitz were named to the CAA Women's Tennis All-Conference third team. Donner received the coach's award, and Nimitz was named most valuable player by her teammates after winning 11-9 overall and 15-15 in doubles play with four different partners.

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*



Ida Donner, Barrett Donner, Rebecca Erickson, Kelly Maxwell, Anna Khor, Briana Jain, Kristin Nimitz, Alyssa Brandalik

## Spotlight

**Kristin Nimitz**  
Sophomore  
Business  
Richmond, VA



### Statistics:

- No. 1 doubles player
- No. 2 singles player
- Went 12-6 in doubles play
- Went 11-9 in singles play

### Honors:

- Team MVP
- Dean's List (Spring 2008)
- Commissioner's Academic Award Recipient





# Bringing The Ball Back To The Court

By Matt Johnson

With its first recruits in team history, the tennis team served up a rocky season, ending with a disappointing loss to Old Dominion University (ODU) in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Quarterfinals.

The team began its season at the University of Virginia fall classic, with graduate Jesse Tarr and sophomore Mike Smith ranked 46th in the country for doubles. Tarr and Smith lost their first match 8-6 to Boise State University, but redeemed themselves with a 9-8 win over a team from Stetson University. In the semifinals, however, Tarr and Smith lost to state rival ODU. With all players eliminated after the second round, singles did not fare well either. The Dukes hit a high point in the next two matches at the Virginia Open and the Hampton Roads Invitational, but ended their fall matches on a rough note, with no players making it past the second round at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Championships.

The spring matches did not result in fresh wins as the team had hoped, but instead continued the trend from the fall season. The Dukes began in spring with a loss to Virginia Commonwealth University, and despite two subsequent wins, hit a midseason wall, losing four straight matches. The Dukes improved their season with a four-game winning streak, but lost to Longwood University 4-3 in a painfully close match, ending their run of luck.

The Dukes then hosted the CAA Round Robin, where they lost 2-4 against University of North Carolina Wilmington and won 6-1

over University of Delaware. They ended the regular season with a 4-3 win against Georgetown University. In the CAA Quarterfinals, the eighth-seeded Dukes were eliminated with a loss to the third-seeded ODU Monarchs, bringing the post season to a close.

"The season was sort of taking the right steps towards a new era, and I think we worked really hard," said Steve Secord, who had coached the team for 15 years.

Secord said that last season, his focus as a coach was improving every aspect of each player's game, as well as prepping the team physically.

"Some programs, they almost take themselves too seriously. Don't get me wrong, we work hard, but we enjoyed it, and we were able to remember it's a game," said Secord.

Junior Mike Smith agreed. "We had a lot of fun," said Smith. "I think that's why we do so well... We play so relaxed and enjoy it. The looser you are, the more you can do what you need to on the court."

Being relaxed allowed the Dukes to end some days with an impressive win.

"Winning all of those matches were high points," said CAA co-Rookie of the Year, sophomore Jared Robinson. Robinson also spoke of his low point, a disqualification for throwing his racket over the net in a moment of frustration.

As for the future of the team, he had high hopes. "We had a good season," said Robinson, "and hopefully we're gonna get better as the years progress."

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*

## Spotlight

**Jared Robinson**  
Sophomore  
Sports Management  
Johannesburg,  
South Africa



### Statistics:

- Went 10-6 in doubles play
- Went 12-7 in singles play

### Honors:

- CAA co-Rookie of the Year



**Bottom row:** Chris Armes, Mike Smith, Yaroslav Voznenko; **Top row:** Head Coach Steve Secord, Jared Robinson, Carlin Campbell, Brian Rubenstein, Jesse Tarr, Assistant Coach John Snead





**EYES** on his opponent, junior Mike Smith crouches in anticipation. Smith was selected as All-CAA second team in doubles with graduate partner Jesse Tarr. Photo courtesy of Sports Medio

**WITH** force, senior Chris Armes serves the ball to his opponent. Armes was a Commissioner's Academic Award recipient and participated in two tournaments in doubles play and four in singles play. Photo courtesy of Sports Medio



## Scoreboard

JMU		OPP
0	VCU	5
3	East Carolina	2
3	Temple	0
2	GWU	5
0	North Carolina	7
0	William & Mary	7
1	Old Dominion	6
5	Richmond	2
6	Presbyterian	1
1	Davidson	6
3	The Citadel	4
7	Howard	0
5	Norfolk State	2
5	Liberty	2
7	George Mason	0
3	Longwood	4
2	UNC Wilmington	4
6	Delaware	1









# Runnin'

# Down A Dream

By Nicole Brigagliano

Women's

Track & Field

On your mark. Get set. Go!

With the sounds of gunshots resonating through the air, the women's spring track and field team took off for the 2008 season. For both Coach Cox and the athletes, the season was a success.

The women did more than compete at meets up and down the East Coast; they smashed school records and proved themselves to be top three material.

By the end of the season, senior Tanique Carter, senior Christine Nicewonger and junior Rebecca Eisenhauer had broken eight school records.

Records were broken in events such as the 100-meter race, 200-meter race, 400-meter race, 800-meter relay and discus over the course of the season. Many records were broken multiple times. But for the team there were more hurdles than the ones on the track. Injuries largely impacted the 2008 season.

"The biggest challenges are always injuries," said Coach Cox. "They're always at the worst time for athletes and the team."

But despite these obstacles, the team members proved they were still in the race, taking home third place at the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Conference Championships. Their score was only points away from second place.

"I think we had our ups and downs," said senior Jessica Nauta, a heptathlete and hurdler. "Our main focus was conference and we came together when we needed to."



At a two-day meet at The College of William & Mary, the women's team competed against nine other universities in the conference. Of the nine, William & Mary proved to be the team's No. 1 threat: a team that had dominated the CAA Conference Championship for many years.

"They have a lot of depth on their team," said senior Leslie Anderson. "They can just stick people in events, enabling them to earn points."

Anderson ran the 200-meter race and 400-meter race, and competed in the long jump.

By the end of day two, the team snatched up third place, with outstanding performances by junior Katelyn Guerriere and seniors Caitlin O'Malley and Jessica Wade.

For senior Renee Lott, who ran the 200-meter race, 400-meter race, 800-meter race and 4x400-meter relay, taking home sixth place in the 4x400-meter relay was one of the most memorable moments of the season. The relay team, consisting of Lott, graduate Marisa Biggins, junior Lana McGowan and senior Leslie Anderson, not only qualified for the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championships (ECAC), but also helped to secure the team's third place spot in the CAA Conference Championships.

"It's instant satisfaction," said Lott. "You do all this training and then for one event there's all this build up and if you succeed it's amazing."

The track and field team had not placed that high at the CAA Conference Championships in a long time.

"Normally we are fourth, fifth, or sixth," Anderson said. "That shows we are improving as a team."

The Penn State Relays in Philadelphia proved to be another successful meet for the team. Of the five relays that the Dukes competed in, three of them qualified for the ECAC finals. The 4x400-meter relay team was able to race to the finish line in first place, earning them a spot in finals as well as a medal.

Because track and field is a sport based on many individual events, the women grew to be one another's support system. Being part of the team was important to crush school records and rise in rankings.

"There's no way to win or accomplish goals if [you're] not there as a team," said Anderson. "Having them there is so advantageous. They are helpful to have around... they encourage you to get through it."

Senior Jessica Wade couldn't agree more. "It becomes a tradition. It's the normal, the common. It's fun."

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*

**Bottom row:** Marisa Biggins, Leslie Anderson, Lana McGowan, LaVonne Ellerbe, Casey Fagan and Jamie Obendorfer;  
**Middle row:** Krissy Kline, Rashonda Roberson, Katelyn Guerriere, Claire Smith, Danna Frink, Renee Lott, Bethany Riley and Tanique Carter; **Last row:** Christine Nicewonger, Amy Remmer, Jessica Nauta, Nicole Rabinowitz, Chelsea High, Olivia Alford, Emily Stewart, Ryan Olexson, Candace Nelms and Jessica Wade *Courtesy of Krissy Kline*











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# Fall Sports





# Hole In One

By Jen Beers

The men's golf team began the year in sunny Hawaii. This was a first-time experience for the team, where the men finished seventh out of 14 teams in the Kaua'i Collegiate Invitational. The invitational took place at the Puakea Golf Course in Kaua'i, Hawaii, a par-72 course that measured up to 6,954 yards.

Back on the university's turf, team members made sure to practice hard to help them compete in other matches too. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the men got up to start strength training and conditioning at 5:45 a.m. While in season, they practiced six days a week, and did not stop after the fall season; the team had a spring season as well.

"Our practices are very relaxed and fun, but are based around productivity," said senior Fielding Brewbaker, co-captain. "All of the drills we do are very meaningful and are focused on certain aspects of the game that we as a team need to improve on."

Jeff Forbes, coach for the team for the past two years, assigned drills to the team that made practice competitive and interesting.

The men kicked off their regular season in Sunset Beach, N.C., where they tied for fifth out of 18 teams in the Sea Trail Intercollegiate, hosted by Elon University. Their score was an impressive comeback from being in 16th place after shooting a 310 the first

day. Junior Michael Meisenzahl helped out the team by finishing sixth out of 96 golfers.

Meisenzahl was also named a Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Player of the Week in September. Another teammate to receive Player of the Week honors was Brewbaker, who was awarded CAA Co-Golfer of the Week in October.

Fall proved to be a successful season for the Dukes, their stroke average dropping almost nine shots from the previous year. A few changes had been made since not all the players from the 2007 season returned to the team, but openings gave way for rising stars. Five freshmen were new to the 10-man team. One freshman, Mike Smith, made news while in Hawaii by tying for 34th place and firing a 1-over-par 217.

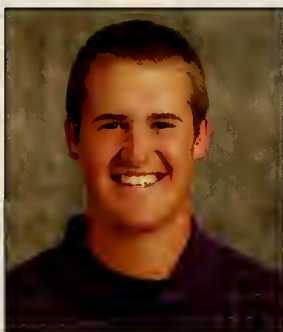
Co-Captains Brewbaker and senior Tim Driver did their jobs as leaders for the team, and helped add to the talent of the Dukes. Each of the men finished under-par in the top 20 overall in Hawaii.

"I like the fact that although we are a team we are playing an individual sport," said Driver. "The mental aspect of the game is unlike any other sport. You have to concentrate for four or five hours at a time with plenty of downtime in between to lose focus."

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*

## Spotlight

**Fielding Brewbaker**  
Senior  
Business  
Management  
Salem, VA



### Statistics:

- Career Rounds: 70
- Career Average: 75.4

### Honors:

- Named CAA co-Golfer of the Week Oct. 16
- Recorded six top 20 finishes in 2007-2008 season



**First row:** Jack Bonifant, Mike Smith, Michael Meisenzahl, Tim Driver, Matt Neely; **Back Row:** Coach Forbes, Garrett Whitmore, Fielding Brewbaker, Jhonny Montano, Chad Mozingo, Chris Wellde





**Crouching down**, senior Fielding Brewbaker lines up the shot. Brewbaker was named Colorado Athletic Association (CAA) Golfer of the week for the Week of Oct. 16. Photo courtesy of Sports Media



**SENIOR** Tim Driver chips the ball out of the rough. Driver's career average was 75.8, and he finished in the top 20 overall at the invitational in Kaua'i, Hawaii. Photo courtesy of Sports Media





AWAITING the outcome, freshman Valentina Sanmiguel watches her ball roll into the hole. She finished first in the CAA playoffs as a high school golfer. Photo courtesy of Sports Media



FOCUSED on the task at hand, Kelly Lynch follows through on her chip shot. She finished first in the CAA playoffs as a freshman. Photo courtesy of Sports Media



# Swinging Life Away

By Beth Principi

Women's  
Golf

When golf was invented in Scotland during the 12th century, it was restricted to men. In fact, a rumor claimed that the word "golf" is an acronym for "Gentlemen Only, Ladies Forbidden." Now, almost ten thousand years later, the members of the women's golf team were out to prove they were just as good as the men.

Paul Gooden coached the team, which consisted of one junior, four sophomores and two freshmen.

Freshman Nicole Sakamoto believed that even with a younger team, they still had a strong bond on and off the green.

"I don't think what grade you're in makes a difference, it's the person you are that matters," said Sakamoto.

The team worked to prove that being young was not a guarantee that they would suffer during the season.

The team opened the season by placing sixth out of 17 teams at the Sea Trail Invitation in North Carolina. Sophomore Catherine Gunnarsson placed 14th out of 93 players in individual scores.

Sophomore Kristin Harrington finished in 44th place, and was pleased with her performance.

"On the first day of the first tournament, I shot a 76," said Harrington. "I did poorly last year, so to come out strong was very important for me."

Her strength was not only important for her score, but also for the team.

"It's nice to be in control of your own game since golf is more of an independent sport," said Harrington. "However, there is still a lot of team

pressure there because each of our scores counts for the team score."

Harrington explained, "I cannot be pulled out of the game if I am having a bad hole like in basketball. There are no time-outs."

No time-outs ended up being a problem for the team members in their last invitation in the fall season. They placed 11th out of 20 teams in the East Carolina University Lady Pirate Invitational.

Freshman Valentina Sanmiguel said that even though they scored a low score of 301 on the second day, the other days' higher scores negatively affected their overall finish.

"It hurt our rankings," said Sanmiguel. "It was very disappointing."

The lady Dukes did not dwell on the bad invitational, because they had a year-round schedule. Having a short offseason and traveling all around the country could have been a threat to the players academically.

"It requires responsibility and desire to succeed," said Sanmiguel.

"You need to learn how to handle your time and you need to rest."

Harrington had a similar outlook. "We miss so much more class than other athletes and sometimes it is hard to make up work. On the other hand, it is fun to be able to compete all the time and travel to so many different places."

With every invitational the ladies competed in, their future as a team grew brighter. They proved that being young was not a sign of inexperience, but of talent and opportunity for the future.

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*



Coach Paul Gooden, Laura Mesa, Kristen Harrington, Kristen Treglia, Nicole Sakamoto, Catherine Gunnarsson, Valentina Sanmiguel, Shannon Kramer, Mary Chamberlain, Kelly Lynch

## Spotlight

**Mary Chamberlain**  
Junior  
Justice Studies  
Dennis, MA



### Statistics:

- Career Rounds: 52
- Career Average: 80.6

### Honors:

- Commissioner's Academic Award recipient
- Shot a 2007-2008 season and team-low round of 73 in the second round of the Sea Trail Intercollegiate



# In The Long Run

By Ariel Spengler

The women's cross country team got off to a great start when sophomore Alison Parris finished the university's first race of the season with a win.

"It's the perfect mixture of endurance and tactics," said Parris, who proved to be a huge competitor in the season, despite being diagnosed with anemia early in her freshman year, forcing her to take an 18-month absence from the sport.

"I love running because it's more than a sport—it's a lifestyle," said Parris. "The benefits of running are great—I feel healthy and fit, yet I can still eat whatever I want."

Parris had help in the season from junior Jess Propst.

"I've been running since I was in sixth grade, so I can't imagine my life without it now," said Propst. "But the thing that really drives me is the competitive aspect. I love racing and the feeling of satisfaction I get from a great race."

The season for the women's cross country team upheld Propst's wishes, especially against the members biggest competitor—The College of William & Mary.

"They have been the team to beat for the past few years," said Propst, "but we're getting closer and closer to being on their level."

The team's coach, Dave Rinker, pushed the women during the season, ensuring that they would be ready for anything that was

thrown at them.

"In the summer, Coach Rinker gives us a training schedule that's mapped out with what we have to do for every week," said Propst, explaining the rigorous offseason.

"That's what sets running apart from all other sports—there is no offseason!" said Parris. "We constantly train seven days a week, every week."

At this point, most members of the team are used to the pressures of running every day. Propst started running at a very young age, but continued to get better each year.

"I love lowering my times," said Propst. "I wasn't horrible in high school, but I've definitely improved a whole, whole lot since I've been at JMU."

## Spotlight

**Aspen Foster**  
Senior  
Communications  
Virginia Beach, VA



### Statistics:

- 2008-2009 12th-place finish at CAA Championships
- 2007-2008 Third-place finish at CAA Championships

### Honors:

- All-conference CAA team
- Conference CAA Commissioner's Academic Award







**JUNIOR** Brittany Lussier takes care to stay inside the flags that mark the course. Lussier's twin, Amber, also ran on the team. Photo courtesy of Sports Media

Parris did not start cross country until high school, but she excelled quickly. In her sophomore year, she qualified for the prestigious high school meet, Nike Outdoor Nationals.

"My father persuaded me to take it up," said Parris. "He ran cross country and track for Purdue University, and encouraged me to take up running. I have been in love with the sport ever since."

Since the women had been together so often, they became more than just teammates. Every practice and meet brought them closer.

"We all support and encourage one another," said Parris.

Propst agreed. "As a team, we always do a cheer on the starting line."

The women's cross country team members kept each other motivated through another tough season.

Before each race, Propst told herself, "This is what you've worked so hard for, so let's go out and get it done!"

*Information compiled from JMUSports.com*

**GOING** it alone, junior Holly Fredericksen remains motivated to do her best. Fredericksen was a JMU Athletic Director Scholar Athlete in the 2007-2008 season. Photo courtesy of Sports Media



**LIPS** pursed in determination, sophomore Bridget Draper maintains her pace. The university hosted an invitational in early September to kick off the season. Photo courtesy of Sports Media





**PLAYING** Junior Amy Daniels, the captain of the JMU field hockey team, is shown here in action. Daniels has been named to the All-American team for the 2011 season. She has also been named to the All-CAA team. Photo by Megan Mori



**CONCENTRATING** on the ball, sophomore Amy Daniel hits down field. Daniels chose to play field hockey because her older sister had played. Photo by Megan Mori

## Scoreboard

JMU	Opponent	
6	St. Louis	1
1	Ohio	0
1	Wake Forest	3
1	Virginia	0
1	Kent State	0
3	Richmond	2
1	American	0
5	Delaware	0
6	Towson	1
2	Drexel	1
7	Hofstra	3
1	Villanova	0
1	Louisville	0
4	Va. Commonwealth	0
0	North Carolina	1
3	Old Dominion	0
3	William & Mary	1
5	Northeastern	0
4	William & Mary	1
1	Old Dominion	0
1	Virginia	2



# Fieldwork

By Amy Schlinger

Twenty-two women stood dispersed in a grid-like form, the hunger to win uniting the team. The intensity in their eyes masked butterflies that filled their stomachs as the seconds until the start of the field hockey game ticked away.

"You just get like 'We can do it... but what happens if we don't? I really want to win, but what happens if I make this mistake?'" said senior Melissa Walls, proving that even captains still had nerves.

Melissa's sister and co-captain Ashley said, "But all of that disappears when the whistle is blown." Both had been on the team since their freshman year. Ashley, Melissa and senior Lauren Walls, who also played on the team, were a set of triplets who were recruited from Eastern Regional High School in New Jersey.

The women's field hockey team went 18-3, winning the conference for the third time in a row. The only other team to hold three straight conference titles was Old Dominion University, one of the Dukes' biggest rivals.

"You kind of get goose bumps," said Ashley, after beating University of Virginia for the first time in years. "It's like being on a rollercoaster—you don't really know what to do, [whether] to high-five or hug."

The women advanced to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) playoffs, but lost in the first round.

"It was a long bus ride home," said Melissa. "But I think that the coaches put it in the best way possible, that you can't look at this as being an awful season 'cause it wasn't, you have to look at all the accomplishments you made."

Although they lost only one starting player from the year before, seven freshmen joined the team. Six of them were redshirted, meaning they

would suit up for games, but not play.

"They worked hard even though they knew they weren't going to play, in order to make us better," said Ashley.

Trusting one another was important to the team's dynamic, and the team was close as a result.

"It is so important, maybe not for men's, but for women's sports, to feel like you are part of a group," said coach Antoinette Lucas, in her fifth year as the head coach. Close relationships differentiated the team from those in the past:

"We worked on playing as a team, not just one person," said Ashley. "We didn't work well as a team before."

Coach Lucas was also responsible for the difference in the team this season. Both she and the players knew that the team was good, but never really got to show it in the past. With a more difficult schedule this year, Lucas was able to push her team to do its best.

"She worked us harder and disciplined us harder because she knew we were good and what we could potentially do," said Melissa.

With the successful season behind them, the team's thoughts were now about future teams and what aspects from this year could be carried on.

"Success breeds success," said Lucas.

After seeing how well it had worked this season, Lucas planned to recruit for a more solid team overall. Although she would miss the seniors, she knew success was obtainable in the future, just with different players.

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*



**First Row:** Erica Henderson, Kelsey Cutchins, Regan Shouldis, Kristen O'Rourke, Jessie Dawson, Margo Savage, Alisha Moran; **Second Row:** Head Coach Antoinette Lucas, Megan Matthews, Tara King, Meghan Bain, Ashley Walls, Melissa Stefaniak, Melissa Walls, Lauren Walls, Jenny Eakin, student trainer Nina Szemis, student trainer Pat Deal; **Back Row:** Assistant Coach Ryan Langford, Assistant Coach Julie Munson, Lindsay Cutchins, Dolores de Rooij, Randi Segear, Becky Hilgar, Melissa McNelis, Amy Daniel, Courtney Parmeter, Sarah Warlick, Erin Johnson, Athletic Trainer Jackie Downar

## Spotlight

**Lauren Walls**  
Senior  
Health Service  
Administration  
Berlin, NJ



### Statistics:

-33 Career Goals  
-21 Assists

### Honors:

-Preseason All-CAA  
-CAA Player of the Week Sept. 2 & Oct. 6  
-Made National Honor Roll on Oct. 6



# Achieving Goals

By Jen Beers

Filled with energy and excitement, the team tried hard on Nov. 7 to take victory in the last game of the season. But best efforts aside, they lost to Towson University by one goal in the regular season finale. The season ended with an overall record of six wins, nine losses and three ties. Seven out of their nine losses were by just one goal. But all home games ended as wins, a definite positive for the team. The Dukes placed 10th in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) rankings with a 3-7-1 record. They were three games from making the CAA Tournament.

The team members started out their season in Louisville, Ky., where they played two games. They lost both games, the first to Butler University and the second to University of Louisville.

Senior Nick Zimmerman, captain, led the team with six goals and five assists. Starting every game, he ranked in the top 10 in the CAA in both goals and assists.

With 23 goals scored by the team all season, sophomore CJ Sapong came in second after Zimmerman, scoring five goals. Sapong was named 2007 CAA Men's Soccer Rookie of The Year and was First Team All-CAA in 2008 for the second consecutive year.

"I love [playing forward] because it's the best one to be in to score goals," said Sapong.

The team tried out a different tactic for most of the season. Last

season they had four defenders, five midfielders, and one forward. This year, Coach Tom Martin mixed things up a bit with four defenders, four midfielders and two forwards.

"The new formation took a lot of pressure off of CJ," said sophomore Kieran Rice. "Instead of playing with just one forward, we played with two." Seniors Esteban Maldonado and Kyle Morsink alternated as the second forward.

Another change to the season was the rotation of goalkeepers. Sophomore Ken Manahan and redshirt freshman Justin Epperson each played nine games, with a total of 71 saves.

New players also added to the momentum of the team. Junior Joel Senior transferred to the university, started and played all 18 games. Three freshmen played: Ryan O'Neil, Jason Gannon and Patrick Innes. O'Neil was also selected to the CAA All-Rookie Team.

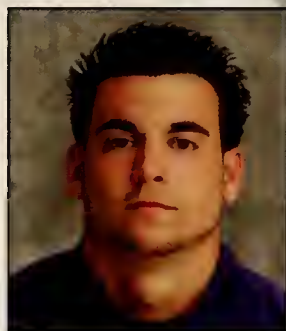
With so many competitive teams in the CAA, the Dukes played every opposing team with heart and dedication. Even though some games did not go in their favor, the men worked hard in the off-season by weight training and endurance running.

Sapong said, "My love for the game and my teammates are what motivate me to compete every day."

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*

## Spotlight

**Nick Zimmerman**  
Senior  
Kinesiology  
Tampa Bay, FL



### Statistics:

- 13 Career Goals
- 21 Assists

### Honors:

- All-conference (CAA) first team
- Team captain, led the team in goals and points
- CAA Player of the Week and ECAC Offensive Player of the Week Sept. 7



**Front Row:** Joel Senior, Kevin Howell, Patrick Innes, David Sanford, Andrew Harvey, Jake Arnold;  
**Second Row:** Jonathan Smithgall, CJ Sapong, Stefan Durr, Jean Tshimpaka, Damien Brayboy, Kieran Rice, Rahul Chaudhry, Kyle Morsink, Esteban Maldonado, Alex Nydal, Bakari Williams; **Back Row:** Patrick Stevens, Ville ("V") Wahlsten, team captain Nick Zimmerman, Billy Swetra, Matt White, Ken Manahan, Justin Epperson





AS his teammates look on, it doesn't make a difference. The Dukes ended the season 18th in the Colonial Athletic Association, ready to go. Photo by Megan Mori

**SENIOR Nick Zimmerman**  
 Captain, Junior, 180 lbs.  
 Nick Zimmerman is the captain of the team. Photo by Megan Mori

## Scoreboard

JMU	Opponent	
0	Butler	3
0	Louisville	1
3	Mt. Saint Mary's	1
1	Wofford	0
1	Penn State	1
1	American	1
5	Bryant	0
0	Northeastern	1
2	William & Mary	1
1	Delaware	0
0	VCU	1
1	George Mason	2
2	Georgia State	0
1	Old Dominion	2
2	Drexel	2
0	UNC Wilmington	2
1	Hofstra	2
2	Towson	3





SENIOR Rachel Chupein



SUSPENDED

Stephanie Poucher

Stephanie Poucher was suspended for the remainder of the season due to a violation of the team's conduct policy. She was suspended for the remainder of the season due to a violation of the team's conduct policy.



## Scoreboard

### JMU

### Opponent

1	Richmond	2
2	Washington State	2
4	Syracuse	1
2	Wyoming	1
0	Colorado	4
1	West Virginia	1
1	Penn State	0
4	Virginia Tech	3
1	George Mason	2
2	Towson	0
2	UNC Wilmington	0
4	Georgia State	2
3	Delaware	0
5	Drexel	0
1	Old Dominion	2
1	William & Mary	0
2	Northeastern	1
2	Hofstra	1
1	VCU	2
1	Northeastern	2
1	Georgia	0
1	Wake Forest	0
2	Portland	3



# The Big Green

By Kerry Matthews

The women's soccer team had a phenomenal year, with both individual honors and a stellar record of wins. The team finished with 14 wins, seven losses and one tie.

Individual players advanced their own career records with a series of awards. Junior Corky Julien was named to the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) All-American third team and led the team in scoring 16 goals—a school season record. She was also named to the All-Atlantic Region Team, along with fellow players senior Kim Germain and junior Teri Maykoski. On Nov. 14, the Dukes faced University of Georgia in the first round National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament. Their win was due in large part to sophomore Diane Wszalek's career-high eleven saves.

Beginning the season, the team was labeled as the underdog. But sophomore Maggie McFadden noticed a “really strong senior class, with a lot of leaders that helped out in that stance.”

Senior Rachel Chupein, captain of the team, also added that the success of the ladies season came from the mindset of Coach Dave Lombardo. “He looks to find good people [as opposed to just] good players, and he's a big reason why a lot of us came here,” said Chupein. In the NCAA Tournament, each conference received an automatic bid. Since the Dukes did not win the CAA conference, they thought their goal of being in the tournament was shattered.

The highlight of the season was receiving an at-large bid, granted by invitation, into the NCAA tournament. Their bid was based on the difficulty of their schedule of games and their performance at those games.

McFadden commented that being accepted into the tournament was great because “everyone saw the Penn State win, and everyone saw that on national television. They played their hearts out.” Although she was injured this season with back problems, McFadden still traveled with the team.

“The ultimate goal was to win the CAA Tournament,” said sophomore Teresa Rynier. Although the women did not win the tournament, they still traveled all the way to Portland, Ore., which was a first for the team.

“We lost 3-2, but we gave them a game,” said Rynier. Although they did not win the tournament, they seemed more disappointed at the losses in the regular season to teams they should have beaten and were expected to beat, according to Rynier.

Overall, the women were surprised and ecstatic to be admitted to the NCAA Tournament and were always working to be a top 25 team. They were underdog at the beginning of the season, but with the help of senior leadership and big goals, their impressive performance in the season allowed their acceptance into the tournament, a proud invitation indeed.

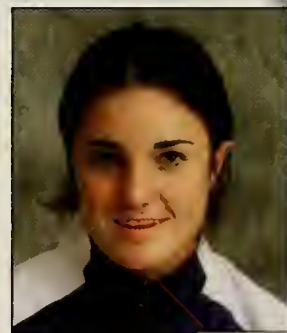
*Information compiled from JMUSports.com*



**Front Row:** Katie Dye, Lauren Wiest, Mandy Miller, Lindsay Bowers, Jess Remmes, Cate Tisinger, Teresa Rynier, Kelly Germain, Ariana Ruela; **Second Row:** Yolie Anderson-Golhor, team co-captain Kim Germain, team co-captain Rachel Chupein, Ashley Flatland, Corky Julien, Morven Ross, Megan Fessler, Crissy Parmer, Kristen Conrad, Head Coach Dave Lombardo; **Back Row:** Student Athletic Trainer Deanna Roberts, Athletic Trainer Nell Brazen, Student Assistant Coach Annie Lowry, Assistant Coach Whitney P. Sajko, Student Athletic Trainer Katie Dillon, Lauren Bell, Teri Maykoski, Jordan Zarone, Stephanie Poucher, Missy Reimert, Diane Wszalek, Ellen Kimbrough, Jessica Barndt, Raeanna Simmons, Lisa Heise, Corinna Strickland, Student Assistant Coach Maggie McFadden, Assistant Coach Bobby Johnston, Assistant Coach Jon McClure

## Spotlight

Corky Julien  
Junior  
Kinesiology  
Williamstown,  
Ontario



### Statistics:

-14 Career Goals  
-8 Assists

### Honors:

-Conference CAA Player of the Year and a member of the All-conference CAA first team  
-Conference CAA Player of the Week Oct. 26  
-Soccer America Team of the Week and conference CAA Player of the Week Oct. 5



# Volleyball

## Serving Up Scores

By Beth Principi

Like a rollercoaster, the women's volleyball team's season consisted of highs and lows, battles to the top, and falls to the bottom. The team finished its season with a record of 13-18 overall.

"We had some really good things that we did, but then there were things we needed to improve on," said freshman Leanna Heston. "I think it is something that we need to put behind us and start preparing hard for the next season to come."

Training for the next season was the top priority for the entire team, with 12 of the 15 players returning.

"We are a young team this year. We only have three seniors, one junior and the rest are freshmen and sophomores," said sophomore Sofia Lindroth. "There were a lot of close games that could have went either way." Those close games included 3-2 defeats from George Mason University, Murray State University and Hofstra University.

The lady Dukes were predicted to finish fourth in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) during the preseason, but finished seventh overall.

They faced stiff competition against the University of California, Berkeley, ranked fifth in the nation, and against Northeastern University, who finished first in the CAA.

Sophomore Lindsay Callahan said that Berkeley was the ladies' toughest game of the season, but they played strongest against South Florida University. They lost in three matches, but Callahan still said it was the best game the team played. "We felt we had nothing to lose and stuck together as a team," said Callahan.

The team's bond on the court was credited to the three seniors, Lauren Miles, Michelle Johnson and Kelsey McNamara. "Lauren was the captain of the team and did a great job," said Heston. "Michelle and Kelsey were good role models and helped the younger players transition throughout the season."

It was inevitable that the team members would grow close when they were around each other as much as these girls were. "In season we practice in the gym 20 hours a week and watch a lot of film to prepare for matches," said Callahan. "Out of season we are more focused on lifting, conditioning and making technical improvements."

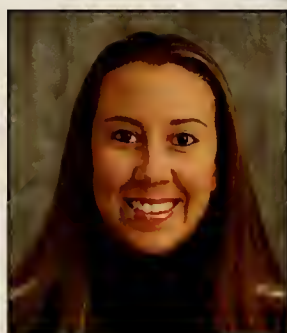
The girls were preparing for the next season with one thing on their mind: revenge.

"I'm excited for the upcoming season," said Callahan. "It should be a different team."

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*

### Spotlight

**Lauren Miles**  
Senior  
Finance  
Tampa, FL



#### Statistics:

-Made more than 3,000 assists throughout her college career

#### Honors:

-Preseason All-CAA

-Recipient of JMU Thomas and Karyn Dingledine Scholarship for Achievement in Academics and Service



**Front Row:** Natalie Abel, Kay Weninger, Holly Wall, Jessica Zeroual, Kelly Turner, Kaitlin McFaddin, Kelly Johnson; **Second Row:** Volunteer Assistant Coach Travis Patera, Assistant Coach Ryan Parker, Lauren Fanelli, Kelsey McNamara, Leanna Heston, Sofia Lindroth, Assistant Coach Brian Grimes, Head Coach Disa Garner; **Back Row:** Michelle Johnson, Morgan Maddox, Lauren Miles, Lindsay Callahan.





**SPIKING** the ball over the net, sophomore Lindsay Callahan scores a point. Callahan supported the team by scoring double-digits in kills and digs. *Photo courtesy of Sports Meda*



**HANDS** sophomore Michelle Johnson is a key player for the team. She has scored 100 kills and 100 digs. *Photo courtesy of Sports Meda*

## Scoreboard

### JMU

### Opponent

3	New Hampshire	0
1	Virginia	3
2	Murray State	3
3	Radford	1
0	California	3
1	UC Riverside	3
2	DePaul	3
1	Liberty	3
1	Brown	3
3	St. Francis	0
3	Morgan State	0
1	Toledo	3
2	Ga. Southern	3
0	South Florida	3
3	Harvard	1
3	UMBC	1
3	George Mason	2
1	Northeastern	3
2	Hofstra	3
3	UNC Wilmington	2
3	Georgia State	1
1	Delaware	3
3	Towson	0
3	Norfolk State	0
0	William & Mary	3
0	VCU	3
1	Hofstra	3
0	Northeastern	3
2	George Mason	3
3	Georgia State	0
3	UNC Wilmington	0



**SOPHOMORE** Nicole Fenner rises to meet the ball. The Dukes practiced three hours a day during the week and lifted weights for an hour twice a week to improve their game. *Photo courtesy of Sports Meda*







**CLUTCHING** the ball, Hassan Abdul-Wahid gets pushed down by the defense. Abdul-Wahid is a senior. Abdul Wahid is a member of the Colonial Athletic Association's CAAI (top right) and is a member of the CAAI (top right) and is a member of the CAAI (top right).

# The Comeback Kids

By Karlyn Williams

The Dukes achieved a winning 10-1 overall record and 8-0 conference record, crowning them Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) champions and the No. 1 seed going into the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) playoff rounds.

Senior Rodney Landers summed up the regular season as “surreal.” “It’s hard to put into words because we had all kinds of victories,” said Landers. “We had come from behind wins and blowout wins.”

Many games ended with fourth-quarter big plays for the win as time ran out, namely the games against Appalachian State University, University of Richmond and Villanova University.

The greatest highlight for both fans and players was the victory over Appalachian State, who had won the CAA championship consistently since 2005.

“Coming back from 21-0 at halftime to beat the No. 1 team in the nation at night under the lights was crazy,” said junior Shawn McEvoy. “After tailgating in packed parking lots all day and seeing the amount of alumni come back for the game, then rushing the field when the game was over—it simply capped off what was probably one of the greatest football games I have ever seen.”

The away game against the University of Richmond Spiders was truly a team effort. After being down eight points with three and a half minutes remaining in the game, the Dukes came through with an eight-yard touchdown and a completed two-point conversion pass, tying the game. With about a minute remaining, it was Richmond’s ball. The Dukes’ defense stopped the play, forcing the Spiders to punt. Junior Scotty McGee caught the punt and ran 69 yards down the sideline for the touchdown to clinch the win, 38-31.

Another fourth quarter win against the Villanova Wildcats resulted from a completed “Hail Mary” pass that bounced off a Villanova defender’s helmet into the hands of junior Bosco Williams as time expired.

“I didn’t expect to catch the ball because that play rarely works, I just wanted to be in a position to catch it,” said Williams.

Up to the final drive, Landers said he did not realize the magnitude of that moment; if the pass had been incomplete the Dukes would have lost the game.

“When I let it go I wanted to give my guy a chance,” said Landers. “I didn’t know Bosco was going to come down with it, it was basically throw it up for that area.”

Landers missed the initial moment of the catch because the linemen started running downfield, blocking his view. It was only when the sidelines erupted that he realized the victory belonged to the Dukes.

Being the No. 1 seed had its perks, most prominently a home field advantage for the playoffs. Bridgeforth Stadium hosted the first playoff game since 1994 and continued to host the remainder of the playoff games as the Dukes strove for the NCAA victory.

They won against No. 8, Wofford University in the first round, 38-35. In round two, the Dukes took on Villanova for a second time. The game was a nail biter, with Landers scoring a one-yard rush with 1:38 remaining in the fourth quarter for the win. The win advanced the Dukes to the semifinal game, where they hosted the University of Montana. The game was televised on ESPN2.

Montana ended the Dukes’ 12-game winning streak, 35-27, by forcing four turnovers. Although the Dukes scored first in the game, Landers suffered an injury just before halftime, and the team couldn’t hold onto their lead. But with their 12-game winning streak, the university tied Boise State for the second-longest active winning streak in all of Division I.

Overall, the Dukes had a season to be proud of.

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*

## Spotlight

**Rodney Landers**  
Senior  
Kinesiology  
Virginia Beach, VA



### Statistics:

**-Career yards: 1,754**  
**-Career touchdowns: 15**

### Honors:

**-Received the Payton Award and league player of the year candidate as a combined rushing/passing threat**  
**-Nation’s top returning QB rusher after being among only two QBs in the top 65 nationally in rushing in 2007**







**SCOTTY** McGee cheers on the team from the sidelines. A popular saying on campus was "Don't get Scotty McGee a present, because he'll just return it," in reference to his impressive skills on the field. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



**Front Row:** Tucker Wyatt, Patty Dorfer, Evan McCollough, Dave Stannard, Jason Pritchard, Hassan Abdul-Wahid, Rodney Landers, Mickey Matthews, Terrence Apted, Patrick Ward, Darrius Ramsey, Marcus Haywood, Scott Lemn, Shelton Johnson, Eugene Holloman, Clayton Matthews, Dr. Kent Diduch; **Second Row:** Reggie Hicks, Marcus Charity, Dominique White, J.D. Skolnitsky, Mike Caussin, Rockeed McCarter, Bosco Williams, Trae Kenney, Arthur Moats, Dorian Brooks, Donnie Smith, Chris Clarke, Sam Daniels, Scotty McGee, Jamaris Sanders; **Third Row:** Kirby Long, Jon Williams, Julius Graves, Colin Fitz-Maurice, D.J. Bryant, Jonas Rawlins, Scott Noble, Charlie Newman, Josh Baird, Ryan Flanagan, Theo Sherman, Jerald Brown, Quintrell Thomas, Lee Reynolds, Brandon Randolph; **Fourth Row:** Bill Roman, Jon Rose, Pat Williams, Corwin Acker, Vidal Nelson, Markus Hunter, Drew Dudzik, Jason Dosh, Matt Goff, Donnell Brown, Jamal Sullivan, Ronnell Brown, Griff Yancey, Brett Ainsley; **Fifth Row:** Chad Byers, Matt Lockley, Doug McNeil, Mike Allen, Matt Simonis, Aaron Butler, Lue Akuak, Andy Smith, Dixon Wright, Roane Babington, Brandon Monroe, Marcus Turner, Arthur Walker, Gerren Griffin; **Sixth Row:** Chris Beaver, Tim Baldwin, Justin Phillips, Max Alexandre, Greg Woodson, Matt Mares, Justin Thorpe, Matt Walker, Jamie Veney, Lucas Peterson, Karl von Allmen, Earl Watford; **Seventh Row:** Austin Tuell, Brian Barlow, Chase Williams, Aaron Harper, Teveion Cuffee, Steve Yakopek, Andrew Holmes; **Eighth Row:** J.C. Price, Aldrich Chu, Andrew Harper, Isai Bradshaw, Pete Johnson, Mark Hendricks, Ulrick Edmonds, Kyle Gillenwater, Daniel Lanphier, Scott Cook, Kelly Murphy, Jo Gundrum, Amy Smith, George Strangos; **Back Row:** Brian Eneedy, Pete Shifflett, George Barlow, Jim During, Josh Haymore, Chris Malone, Jeff Durden, Margaret Carey, P.J. Wellhouse, Allison Forrest, Leah Morrison, Chris Hite, Brandon Alderman



BY USING some fancy footwork, senior Rodney Landers sidesteps a William Henry defender. Landers accounted for 357 yards and four touchdowns in the upcoming game. *Photo by Gwaltney*

JMU	Opponent
7	Duke 31
56	N.C. Central 7
52	Massachusetts 38
35	Appalachian State 32
24	Maine 10
56	Hofstra 0
38	Richmond 31
23	Villanova 19
41	Delaware 7
48	William & Mary 24
58	Towson 27
38	Wofford 35
31	Villanova 27
27	Montana 35

BYING some fancy work, senior Rodney Sanders sidesteps a William & Mary defender. Sanders counted for 357 yards and four touchdowns in the upcoming game. *Photo by Gwaltney*

[illegible]



**RUFFLING** The cheerleaders  
were responsible for the  
cheerleaders' success. The  
cheerleaders were the  
only ones who were  
allowed to be in the  
cheerleaders' line.  
The cheerleaders were  
the only ones who were  
allowed to be in the  
cheerleaders' line.



**CHEERLEADERS** The cheerleaders  
were responsible for the  
cheerleaders' success. The  
cheerleaders were the  
only ones who were  
allowed to be in the  
cheerleaders' line.



**Front Row:** Molly Chilton, Morgan Sterner, Rosie Ortiz, Anne Bianchi, Danielle Romero, Annie Lewis; **Second Row:** Heather Merner, Kat Worton, Sarah Ratchford, Kendall Hicks, Rachel McDonnell, Jen Lodder, Lorin Whitt, Sarah Smith, Jennifer Tatanish, Kelsey O'Connor, Kristina Mohler, Stephanie Simms; **Back Row:** Alicia Chace, Brittany Fortner, Kristin Sachs, Nikki Beatty, Nina Passero, Angelica Baylor, Brittany Ford, Erin Albery, Madison Furman, Lauren Maira



## Pump It Up!

By Karlyn Williams

Coming off a first place win in their first competition in 10 years last March, members of the varsity cheerleading team held open tryouts in the spring, leaving a few open spaces for incoming freshmen to try out in the fall.

"There is so much hard work and [so many] dedicated hours put into cheer between practice and conditioning," said senior Greg Perrow, captain. "It has been challenging physically and mentally dealing with this large commitment."

Perrow was one of 11 men on the 49-member varsity cheerleading team. A former high school football player, he decided to try out after a group of cheerleaders approached him at a game.

The skills required to make the team were a variety of tumbling exercises, executing stunts properly and personality in front of head coach Tameka Burroughs and assistant coach Magen Brock. Those who possessed the abilities necessary for making the team were placed on either the coed squad or the all-girl squad.

The reason for two squads within the varsity team was to ensure there would be cheerleaders on both the student and alumni sections during football games, men's and women's basketball games, pep rallies and other events. The coed squad cheered at the men's basketball games, while the all-girl squad cheered at women's games.

The coed squad had 11 men and eight women, allowing for ample

spotters during complex pyramid stunts and partner stunts. In previous years the coed squad had to cut a few stunts because they did not have enough spotters. Having spotters during a stunt was important because of safety precautions. Trust in teammates was not gained, but expected.

"At this point, we all just know that we have to trust each other from the beginning," said senior Jennifer Lodder. "Practicing the stunt over and over until it is solid is the only way to gain more trust. But in the beginning, we just go for it and assume someone will be there if it goes wrong."

Both teams practiced and conditioned together in Godwin Hall's gymnastics room. They practice on average two to three days a week for two hours each practice. Each practice consisted of a warm-up run around campus or Godwin Hall, stretches and tumbling. After the initial warm-up they rehearsed new stunts for the upcoming games and perfected older stunts.

"Watching each of them progress in skill level and in maturity throughout their years is rewarding," said Brock. "The team works very hard and is composed of very dedicated athletes who cheer because they truly enjoy it."

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*



**Front Row:** Lauren Schick, Courtney Doherty, Holly Stevens, Kate McCoy, Leigh Culver, Rachel Johnson, Briana Guertler, Mary Sykes, Matt Hill; **Back Row:** John Nguyen, Nicholas Bass, Emmanuel Fairley, Ty Freeman, Greg Perrow, Paul Crisman, Aaron Wimer, Tyler Bradley, Sean Sommers

### Spotlight

**Courtney Doherty**  
Senior  
Graphic Design  
& Art History  
Doylestown, Pa.



-Voted captain of the 2008-2009 season

-Voted "most dedicated" in both the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 season









Photo by Amy Gwaltney

Men's Basketball 356

Women's Basketball 358

Swim & Dive 360

# Winter Sports





# Drive it to the Hoop

By Matt Johnson

After a disappointing season, the men's basketball team made a valiant comeback under their new head coach, Matt Brady.

Brady, who began coaching in 1987, adjusted well to his first year at the university.

"It's been a terrific experience for me and my whole staff," said Brady. "We inherited a group of returning players that were anxious and excited about the opportunity to have a winning season."

By the middle of the season, Brady had already led the team to surpass last season's conference and overall wins.

"The chance to work with Coach Brady is a treat, because he brings a lot of teaching to the table," said senior Kyle Swanston. "I feel like I learn something new every day when I come to practice."

The key to success was defense, according to Brady.

"We have introduced a new philosophy here," said Brady. "To have a championship level team you have to build your program around defense. And to that end, I believe that we're making great strides."

Senior Juwann James believed the team's success this season came from having a great group of men and a strong coach. "I say [our success is] because of the players' mentality and the coach's effort to push the guys," said James. "This year's players have shown that they really want to work on their game, and that they are really passionate about winning. Being a four-year player, I have seen a lot, but this year it was about just coming together and winning."

The entire season, however, was not a complete string of highs according to James, who missed a few games due to a medical condition.

"One low point was when Coach Dean Keener got fired. He was the guy who recruited me," said James. "He was like a father figure to me, but at the same time he taught me how to push through adversity."

Another change this season was the resurgence in the support of the team from the university and the community.

"I think one of my highest points [this season] is winning and getting fans to come back into the Convocation Center to support us," said James.

Brady agreed that the support from the administration and the community had been great.

"I think we have been welcomed with open arms, especially from an administration that is eager to help us put JMU at the top of this league," said Brady. "The community support is terrific and it's been fun to watch people get excited about our team."

James said that overall, it was a team with which he was happy to share the court.

"I think that I am surrounded by a great group of guys, and these are guys that I feel like are going to have my back, on and off the court," said James. "I would have to credit a lot of my success to my teammates, because regardless of a good or bad game, they have always been confident in my abilities."

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*

## Spotlight

**Juwann James**  
Jacksonville, Fla.  
Kinesiology  
Senior



### Statistics:

- 523 Career Rebounds
- 109 Career Steals

### Honors:

- Scored in double figures 18 times, including five straight games before having seven points at Hofstra
- The 10th Duke with 1,000 points and 500 rebounds
- The second Duke with 1,000 points, 500 rebounds and 100 assists and steals



**Front Row:** Andrey Semenov, Devon Moore, Heiden Ratner, Ben Louis, Ryan Knight, Abdulai Jalloh, Pierre Curtis, Stephen Kendall, Scott Renkin, Julius Wells, Juwann James; **Back Row:** Matt Brady (head coach), Corey Stitzel (assistant coach), Orlando "Bino" Ranson (assistant coach), Louis Rowe (graduate assistant), Kyle Swanston, Alvin Brown, Matt Parker, Dazzmond Thornton, Greg Werner (strength & conditioning coach), John Kaltenborn (sports medicine), Kevin Hargrove (director of operations), Rob O'Driscoll (assistant head coach)





**SOPHOMORE** Ben Louis dribbles the ball around the court. Louis, a guard, transferred into the program from Australia. Photo courtesy of Sports Media

**DURING** a game, Jowann James, a forward, is seen in action. Photo courtesy of Sports Media

## Scoreboard

### JMU Opponent

74	Philadelphia Univ.	65
64	Davidson	99
62	Miss. Valley	54
82	Kennesaw State	69
54	Loyola	64
81	Florida Atlantic	64
73	Fordham	53
76	Longwood	79
55	Northeastern	60
85	Radford	81
74	Morehead State	62
70	Seton Hall	64
66	Texas-El Paso	79
81	Belmont	64
57	Towson	58
66	Drexel	60
70	Old Dominion	62
74	William & Mary	65
79	UNC Wilmington	58
57	George Mason	71
70	Towson	59
68	Hofstra	69

\*Due to publication deadlines, some games are not included.





POWER TO UCCY...  
 Courtney Hamner...  
 Liberty...  
 Madison...  
 Photo by Amy Gwaltney



**PUSHING** the ball to the hoop, senior Kisha Stokes and sophomore Jalissa Taylor leap past Liberty University defenders. "In my four years at JMU, I've never had to sit out a game," said Stokes, looking back on her career in basketball. Photo by Amy Gwaltney

## Scoreboard

JMU	Opponent	
83	DT3 Exhibition	73
85	Radford	61
76	Maryland	90
80	E. Michigan	76
63	Boston College	71
77	Liberty	64
59	Georgetown	62
70	VA Tech	72
104	UMBC	63
76	Bucknell	56
72	St. Francis (NY)	53
87	Siena	62
90	George Mason	65
74	Towson	56
48	VCU	81
70	Delaware	53
60	Drexel	56
70	George Mason	65
72	Old Dominion	67

\*Due to publication deadlines, some games are not included.



# Youth of the Court

By Beth Principi

Women's

Basketball

The fountain of youth poured into the gym of the women's basketball team, fulfilling the thirst for victory.

The lady Dukes consisted of four freshmen, four sophomores, two juniors and two seniors, making it a considerably young team. With skeptic voices following their every move in preseason, team members had a tough road ahead of them. But the women persevered, and the team of 12 won their first two home games, setting a tone for the rest of the season.

"We knew we had a lot of work to do and a lot of doubters to silence," said senior Kisha Stokes. "Many critics predicted we would not do so well because we were a young team."

Those critics were silenced after the Dukes' first game, a game that junior Nana Fobi-Agyeman remembered as one of the most important during the season.

"That game set a morale for us," said Agyeman. "It also showed the freshmen what JMU was really about and what our coaches expected from us."

After that game, the Dukes did not lose at home until the 15th game of the season. With a record of 10-4, the team faced Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) at home and lost with a score of 81-48.

"We pride ourselves on having one of the toughest gyms to play at," said Agyeman. "Losing to VCU by that much at home was unacceptable."

After falling hard at home, the Dukes clawed back. Four games later, the women had one of the best victories of the season, beating Old

Dominion University (ODU) 72-67. The Dukes ended ODU's Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) home game winning streak of 37 games.

"It was the first time in my four years to beat them at their place," said Agyeman. "It was the greatest triumph as a team and as an individual."

With triumph came hard work. The women who made up the university's basketball team had been preparing for these games ever since they picked up a basketball. Freshman Kiara Francisco said she had started playing basketball when she was a little girl.

"I got into basketball at an early age playing in youth city leagues," said Francisco. "I was always talented in athletics, but I still had to work hard."

Stokes, on the other hand, took some convincing to get into basketball.

"I attended a community center and the basketball coaches there saw something in me that said basketball," said Stokes. "At the time I was running track for a boys and girls club in Brooklyn, and cheerleading at the center. After a long time of [others] trying to convince me to play, I gave in and decided to give it a try. Ever since, I have been in love."

Regardless of how old they were when they shot their first basket, the women worked hard every day to prepare for the upcoming games. The team held practice five or six days a week throughout the season. Their hard work prepared them for the tough competitors ahead.

"We take it one game at a time," said Stokes. "We never look ahead or past another team."

Information compiled from JMU Sports.com



**Front Row:** Kiara Francisco, Courtney Hamner, Kisha Stokes, Nina Uqdah, Dawn Evans, Brittany Crowell, Sarah Williams; **Back Row:** Director of Operations Jenna Burkett, Assistant Coach Sean O'Regan, Student Assistant Coach Nana Fobi-Agyeman, Jalissa Taylor, Rachel Connely, Lauren Jimenez, Kanita Shepherd, Associate Head Coach Jackie Smith Carson, Head Coach Kenny Brooks, Assistant Coach Nikki Davis

## Spotlight

**Dawn Evans**  
Sophomore  
Pre-medicine/  
Dentistry  
Clarksville, Tenn.



### Statistics:

- Averaged 13.5 points per game
- 115 assists in the 2007-2008 season

### Honors:

- Conference Player of the Week Nov. 16, Nov. 30 and Jan. 4
- School record seven consecutive games with 20+ points
- School record 25 consecutive games making three-pointer





# Dive Right In

By Casey Smith

"Fam-wha? FAMILY!" said freshman Lauren Broussard.

When describing the women's swim and dive team, the word most often used was "family." The team was a group of women who swam together, ate together and decorated posters and banners together. By practicing with one another or hanging out socially nine or 10 times a week, team members practically became sisters.

"I think the best word to describe the group of women was 'family,'" said swim coach Samantha Smith. "They depended on each other and they supported one another. That allowed them to grow as student athletes, but even more as a group of outstanding people."

Diving coach Rebecca Benson felt the same about the team as a whole.

"We were one of the few swimming and diving teams that truly behaved as one unit," said Benson. "It made the whole team closer and we had a lot of fun."

The women swam for hours a day and lifted a few times a week. Practices throughout the season were intense, especially when they traveled to Florida Atlantic University (FAU) for their yearly training trip.

"The hardest training of the year is done at FAU," said Smith. "The team spends eight straight days training."

"It was incredibly challenging," said sophomore Layne Eidemiller, who was a freestyle sprinter. "We woke up at five in the morning and worked out intensely for at least two or more hours a day."

The intensity of the sets and other exercises came as a shock to some new members.

"Florida training was probably the hardest week of training I have ever done," said freshman Morgan Hammond. "We swam between five and seven thousand yards each practice, then we lifted or did dryland for an hour, and then we had to go swim again later that day."

Despite the rigorous training, the women were drawn to the atmosphere of the swim team.

"All the girls were so close," said freshman Melissa Helock. "When I looked at other schools, the teams didn't seem to get along like they did. That was a huge factor for me."

Broussard experienced similar feelings on her visit. "I just knew this was where I was supposed to be. I don't know many other teams who were as close as we were and I knew those girls would be there for me, no matter what."

Although this past season was not the team's first, it was unique nonetheless.

"We continue to get better every single meet and other teams notice that about us," said senior Jessica Lee, a captain.

Broussard concluded, "No other school I ever saw showed me the same opportunities that I found here: great academics and a wonderful team."

*Information compiled from JMU Sports.com*

## Spotlight

**P.J. Naber**  
Junior  
Graphic Design &  
Art History  
Chantilly, Va.



### Statistics:

- Placed first in 100 freestyle against Northeastern, VMI/Georgetown, at the Bucknell Invitational and at the CAA Pod Meet
- Placed first in the 200 freestyle against Northeastern

### Honors:

- 2007-08 CAA Commissioner's Academic Award.



**Front Row:** Erika Lupacchino, Morgan McCarthy, Meghan Lewis, Layne Eidemiller, Kristen Wolla, Becca Hunt, Emily Konieczny, Lisa Colapietro, Lindsey Stevenson; **Second Row:** Nancy Richardson, Lauren Broussard, Morgan Hammond, Lara Beth Elder, Melissa Helock, Chelsea Savage, Christina Lepore, Jessie Everett, Jessica Lee, Christina Gennari; **Third Row:** Carrie Greene, Samantha Holland, Beth Feather, Lauren Kranz; **Back Row:** Julie Stefanski, Meghan Heil, Jen Morris, P.J. Naber, Amanda Hauck, Emily Vance, Allison Gould, Jackie Hartman.





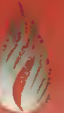
**TAKING a quick breath** ... Lisa Colapietro says it's about the water, the feel of it on her face and the feel of the water on her skin. In relays, there's a sense of team effort.

**PREPARING** for a relay ... Julie Stefanski says it's about the feel of the water on her face and the feel of the water on her skin. In relays, there's a sense of team effort. Photo courtesy of Sports Media.

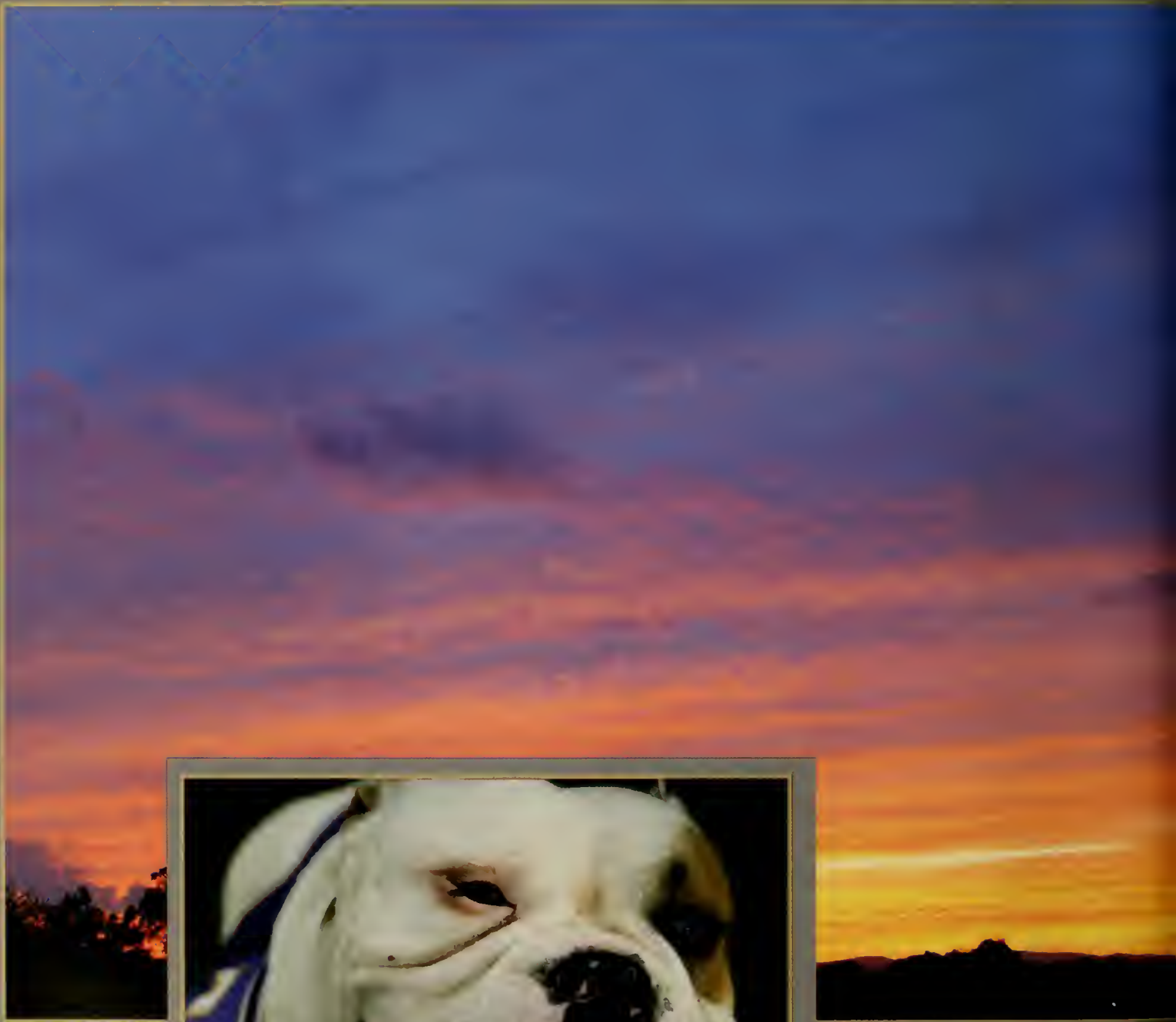
## Scoreboard

JMU	Opponent	
192	Georgetown	100
204	Virginia Military	6
130	Radford	89
224	Northeastern	128
278	Drexel	69
152	William & Mary	200
191	Old Dominion	162
149.5	Northeastern	150.5
112	Towson	188
218	Loyola	91

\*Due to publication deadlines, some meets are not included.







*Photo by Rebecca Schneider*

*Photo by Amy Gwaltney*

# Closing



Photo by Amy Gwaltney



The Dukes were up with one minute left in the football game against their arch rivals, the Appalachian State Mountaineers. The Mountaineers tried an off-side kick to get the ball back, but they did not make the 10 feet. The Dukes won by three, and the fans went wild as they rushed the field.

Even when you are down in the first half, there is always still time to make change happen. Students and faculty pulled together this year, contributing their time and dedication toward improving the university's community. Along with great change came great adaptations as university members adjusted to their roles as members of a new society.

Whether you are graduating, retiring or returning to the university in the following year, do not overlook everyone and everything you have affected, and everyone and everything that has affected you during the 2009 - 2010 year.



Photo by Amy Gwaltney





"Through JMU's business school's emphasis on group work and business consulting, I have been given a great insight on problems in the real-world environment."

-senior Vinny Cass



**A VIEW** of the packed football game during Family Weekend is seen on a hill outside the stadium. Family Weekend football games were one of the few games that required purchasing a ticket by a certain time, so many fans had to find alternative seating for this popular event. *Photo by Rebecca Schneider*



**IMITATING** a lonely cowboy, a fraternity member takes his place during Greek Sing. Sororities and fraternities usually took months to prepare their performances and props for the annual event that united the Greek community. *Photo by Natalie Wall*



**CONSTRUCTION** for the new Performing Arts Center is underway on a sunny day. It was only one of many new changes to the university's campus, as plans for expansion paralleled the university's growing population. *Photo by Rebecca Schneider*



**A GARGANTUAN** inflatable Duke Dog embellishes the front of Wilson Hall during Sunset on The Quad. The event was only one of the six events that united the Madison community in celebration of Homecoming. *Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



**A SORORITY** sister sings a solo as part of the Greek Sing competition. Ten percent of men and 12 percent of women joined fraternities and sororities at the university due to the strong Greek reputation of brother and sisterhood.

*Photo by Amy Gwaltney*



**PARENTS** are filled with university pride at the Family Weekend football game. The weekend offered families the opportunity to learn about campus life and was jam-packed with performances and events. *Photo by Rebecca Schneider*



"Over the past two years, I have noticed that JMU has made a big effort to encourage students to recycle their trash through having recycling cans all around the JMU campus."  
-sophomore Sara Ilenko





# Joanna's Letter

I am a yearbook nerd at heart. As I write this letter, I find it hard to believe that I have completed production of my seventh and final book. There will always be little things that I will look back on wishing I had done differently, but nothing will change how proud I am of each of the staffs with which I have collaborated; especially the dynamic team that produced *Ignite*.

Being the editor in chief of *Ignite* has been surreal. When I was hired at the end of my junior year, I told my parents that I didn't think I could do it. I look back in hindsight now, doubling over with happiness. I did it; but I could not have done it without the help and guidance of some of the most spectacular people I have ever met.

Kristi, you were my backbone this year. I could not have been blessed with a better adviser. Every time I freaked out, I didn't feel better until I talked to you. You have an answer for everything, and I truly appreciate all the sacrifices to your own schedule you made for our book. You are extraordinary—I don't know how you handle being in charge of the catalog, *The Bluestone* and a graduate-level class, yet still have time to send us cookies and pizza money. You really are the best.

Leslie, oh help us. If Kristi was my backbone, you were my right arm. Not only are you a magnificent designer, you are dedicated, responsible and go above and beyond the tasks that are expected of you. Remember at 2 a.m. when we thought the 88 pages we had finally completed all corrupted? Now that was a HOOT. I am proud of your faith, especially since you represent it through the Jonah symbol on your neck. I'll be sure to tell you whenever I purchase my first Weatherbee weather reporter, so you better keep in touch with me!

Becky, you started out as my star writer, and blossomed into a leader. Thank you for always keeping me on track, and for stepping up at every possible opportunity. I am so excited for you to tackle the 2010 edition of *The Bluestone* as the editor in chief; I know the book is in good hands. Your leadership and management skills, in addition to your artistic vision, will lead it to the success it deserves. I will never forget chasing you down Bourbon Street at 1 a.m.

Sarah, we are the same person! At the beginning of the year, when you took over my former position on the editorial board, I felt like I had hired another me; but I was wrong. We may share the same mysterious passion for grammar, but in reality, you were the copy editor that I never was. I am really going to miss all our awesome (and slightly awkward) office-hour conversations. Don't forget to try all the things on your list!

Natalie, this year would just not have been the same without your zany (I think that's everyone's favorite adjective for you) personality. Thanks for being on top of the photography like a pro, especially for the classes section, which has some of the least compelling photo ops in the history of photography. There are two things I wish for you in life: that you will always continue to foster your passion for photography, and that you will marry Seth Rogen.

Colleen, oh Colleen, what a pleasure it has been to get to know you and become close with you. You amaze me—I think you sneezed at least 872 times during our fifth deadline, yet you were still upbeat and willing to work so diligently. I love how parallel our lives seemed to be

throughout the year, and I thank you so much for being an incredible resource for me. I know you are going to do something extraordinary for our world. You are a role model.

Lucy, I am SO happy you were a part of our team this year. I feel like we should put a note in the back of the book that says, "90 percent of the captions were written by Lucy Romeo." You are so talented, and I know you will go very far in life. Thanks so much for all your help!

To the *Ignite* staff: I have truly loved and appreciated your enthusiasm. I can't tell you how excited I was to see so many of you come out to our theme meeting at the beginning of the year, and then continue to flex your journalistic muscles throughout the rest of the year. Your stories, photos and designs have shaped *Ignite* into an unforgettable book.

To the lovely ladies of 1240i: Can you believe it? We are going to be college graduates. Crazy! Fegan, I can't believe our four-year legacy is coming to an end. Remember our first day in Shorts? "Hi, I'm Joanna." It's hard to think that we barely knew each other then, now that four years of O.C. marathons, Mrs. Green's lunches and Mexican vacations are almost behind us. Our relationship is extraordinary. Even though in a few months we will no longer be living together, I will always consider you my eternal roommate. Ashley, knights of Columbus! We are growing up. I love how much closer you and I have grown over the past two years. Remember when we skunked Eric and Caleb? Might be my favorite BP experience ever. Even though you will always be the better player, I am proud of myself for aiding you in that victory, and proud of us in so many other ways. Katherine, a.k.a. Katarzina, I am so happy you became a proud member of our wall, and an animated part of our apartment this year. You are so silly! Having you as our roommate was so much fun—you always want to go out and have fun and it's just great! I will really miss you.

Adam, I don't think I would have made it through the year without you. Knowing that I would get to see you at the end of a week pulled me through. I remember I was so excited to see you once that I had an entire conversation with Katherine about cheese because I was so giddy. I missed you being right across the street, but wouldn't take back any of our ping-pong games, listening to '90s on 9 or our trying out new meals with you for anything. Thank you for being my rock. I love you.

Aileen, there really are no words. If anyone has any questions about the specialness of our relationship, they should just refer to our wall-to-wall on Facebook. I can't believe we are both yearbook EICs ... what a family of geeks we are. But really, thanks for everything.

And last but not least, Mom and Dad: I don't really know how to put into words how lucky I am to have parents like you. It seems like with every step you take you are thinking of Aileen and me. As I say every year, you are constant reminders of the kind of person I strive to be. You've heard me cry, freak out and break down over the last four years, and you've never given up on me. Though you didn't write any captions or take any pictures, *The Bluestone* could not have been completed without you two. I love you.

I'm really going to miss this windowless cave with yellow walls, but I am excited for the next step. Thank you all so much.

Joanna Brenner, Editor in chief



ter



Fireman and Yearbook



Adam and me at Harper's Ferry



Me, Emma and Ashley at my 21st birthday



Ashley, me and Fegan at the beach



Yearbook Girls



The new 1240i



Fegan and me



My twin sister, Aileen, and me





# Leslie's Letter



My cousin, Annie, and my brother Matt and me



Rhe, M, and the girls



363 girls opening Christmas presents!



Fab 4 forever and always!

You would never imagine that a publication like this could come from the room it does. Through six long weekends in the dungeon of Roop Hall in a room with yellow padded walls, the 2009 *Bluestone* was made. We did it!

First off, I want to thank the girls on the editorial board. Without them there wouldn't be a book, let alone a book this great. Jo, Sarah, Colleen, Becky, Natalie and Lucy, I must say we have had some of the strangest conversations, but I wouldn't change a thing. It has been great getting to know you girls. Becky, congrats on editor in chief! I can't wait to see the 2010 *Bluestone*.

Jo, it's complete! After my computer almost crashing after a deadline, doing a "happy" dance when we finally got the panel flow to work, and making me recount the amount of pages we submitted 50 million times during deadline, it has been a crazy ride, but a great experience to say the least. You really have been a strong pillar throughout this whole process and we couldn't have done it without you! I'm glad I finally learned how to spell "courtesy."

To my designers, Parvina, Rebecca, Kristen, Lauren and Jessica, I couldn't have done it without you. Thanks for all your hard work throughout each deadline and for pushing the envelope on your designs to help make this book great. I can't wait to see what each of you do in the future.

I would also like to thank my roommates, Emily, Lauren and Claire, for allowing me to go in hiding for weekends at a time. You all supported me and allowed me to vent at times when needed. Thanks for everything. I know 363 will always be a home to me!

Thanks to my friends here at school for allowing me to use "yearbook" as an excuse for anything and everything. You all provided me inspiration and support throughout the whole process.

I wanted to give a shout out to my little, Stephanie, for all her late-night visits and phone calls during deadline that provided entertainment not only for me, but the rest of the editorial board. I love you and don't know what I will do without you next year.

And last, but certainly not least, I want to thank my family for always supporting my passions and pushing me to be the person I am today. Thank you for always encouraging me to do the best I can in everything I do. Mom, I'm glad I am turning into you.

To everyone who has touched my life while at JMU, my SGA and LPCM friends who have become my family, thank you for everything. I am a better person because of each and every one of you. THANK YOU!

Leslie Cavin, Creative Director

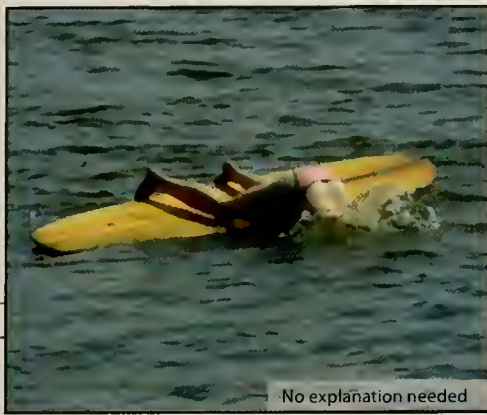


Stacy and me



My mom and me





Well, Sarah Elizabeth Chain, this is now the third time I have had to rewrite this ultimately special letter. Word should definitely have automatic save. So in retaliation I am going to talk in constant exclamations! I'm screaming this sentence right now!!

Any who (any who or any whom-I never know!), onto the subject of 12-hour days, a crap load of Jason Mraz and my obnoxious mouth, face and whole being!! Well guys, we have come to that special, special place where only we can come and co-exist. That happy place, oh, that happy place. A mixture of coffee, match smoke and my feet seemed to waft in the air. Mustard yellow never looked so good on carpeted walls!

After spending so much time together, I think some apologies are needed. Okay, maybe you guys aren't as horrible as I am, but I must say I did some terrible things, I said some mean words and honestly... I don't really like you guys. Yeah, that's right I said it... JK!!

Now, on to the apologies:

Joanna, I'm sorry you never fired me. Honestly, you probably should have. I'm also sorry for the smell of my feet. They really do smell. But I am truly sorry this is our last deadline together. Good times in the yellow-lined psych ward.

Sarah, I'm sorry you can't be me. But let's get real here... no one is as cool and amazingly good-looking as myself. Just look at my pictures. Every moment spent with you has been a pleasure, and I'm ready to spend my lifetime with you. Just remember: "Was this Halloween?" "No."

Colleen, you I owe the most apologies to-you had to be seen in class with me, and the truth is, I'm embarrassing. But your gracious soul and loving heart took me in with open arms and a spoonful of peanut butter. And I couldn't have been happier. So thank you for coming down and saving my life, you special girl, you.

Becky, I'm sorry but I am going to steal your amazing camera. No, seriously I am. I just thought I should apologize before doing the deed. Seriously, without you I could not function. Thank you for cleaning up my messy desk and always making me laugh. You always provided me with just what I need and for that I am forever indebted. Loves you.

Last, but not in the very least, Leslie. I am truly sorry, but I still think Jesus is hot. And if I ever got the chance to date him, I would. Thank you for your patience and for never getting too offended for whatever came out of my mouth.

I would also like to thank Lucy, sweet Lucy, my photographers and everyone in the whole world!

This year has been awesome and I couldn't do it with any of you amazingly awesome ladies. But just remember you could have never done it without me.... never. Because I am so damn awesome! Hugs and kisses!



Natalie Wall, Photography Director

# Natalie's Letter

Closing 373



# Sarah's Letter



Chris and me



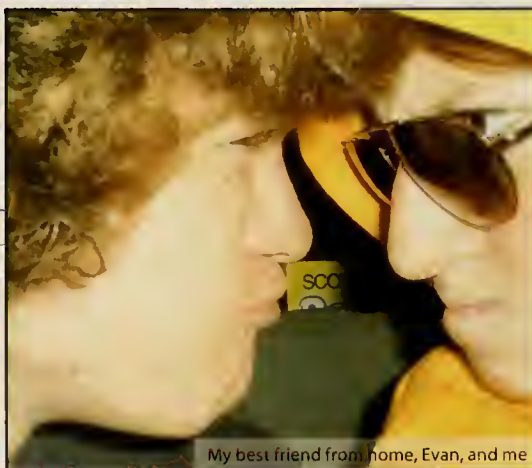
Me and my family at Rebecca's graduation



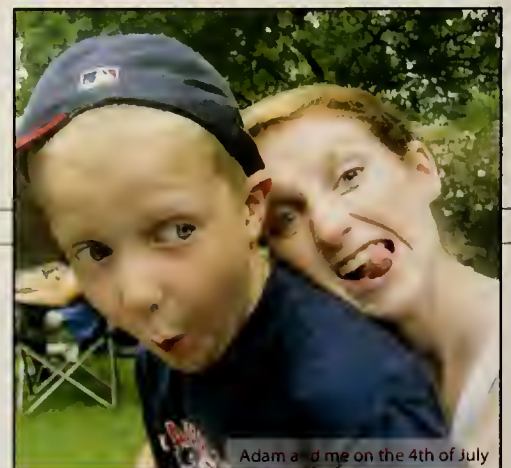
My roommate Jacqui and me



Hanging out together before a deadline



My best friend from home, Evan, and me



Adam and me on the 4th of July

It is difficult to fathom that after a lifetime of weekends in *The Bluestone's* office, we will finally hold in our hands a 400-page book. It has been a wonderful experience and I cannot wait for everyone to enjoy the final product.

The book could not have come together in the way it did without the contributions of the ladies of *The Bluestone's* editorial board. You all made the deadlines entertaining, to say the least.

Joanna, you led us through the year with enthusiasm that no one else could have shown. From my training last spring to the final deadline, you were there every step of the way to show me how great *The Bluestone* could be. You know I'll be calling you next year at midnight on a Saturday to ask the proper hyphenation of "lifelong."

Leslie, when you dive into the professional world, I have two snippets of advice: courtesy and integration. Keep your spell check on! What a boring group it would have been without you—and what a hungry group without your monsters. You put your heart and soul into the book, and it would have fallen to pieces without you.

Becky, your dedication to even the smallest of tasks helped us all stay on track this year. Thanks for keeping me on my toes with AP style and diligently working to improve every article. I know you will excel as editor in chief next year, and I can't wait to see what you have planned.

Colleen, I loved every new doodle of your initials when you edited an article—it gave me something to look forward to, especially on longer deadlines. Your eye for detail and easygoing demeanor will serve you well as you take your next step into the real world.

Natalie, it has been quite the year getting to know you, and I wouldn't have done it any other way. You kept me in good spirits throughout deadline weekends. You'll always be my zany friend.

Lucy, everyone knows we couldn't have completed *The Bluestone* without your help. From writing captions to brainstorming headlines, you were always willing to lend a hand wherever needed, and we all appreciate it more than words can show.

To my roommate and my friends, thanks for understanding when I went missing for days at a time. And of course, to Chris, I know planning our visits around deadline weekends wasn't easy, but I appreciate your ability to handle it all in stride. Thanks for helping me de-stress when things got too crazy. Mom and Dad—although I'm not sure you'll ever understand a deadline weekend is *all* weekend, thanks for supporting me and being proud of the things I accomplished.

And because I cannot end without mentioning our lovely carpeted cave, thanks to the office for being my second home this year. I should have paid rent considering how much time I spent between classes napping on the couch or typing away on my computer.

Overall, it's been an unforgettable year.

Sarah Chain, Copy Editor





I cannot believe it. The yearbook is finished! It has been a fantastic year working on the book and I am so grateful to have been a part of the process. When I first walked into the windowless office last spring, I could not even begin to imagine how much I would learn in a room with mustard-yellow carpet covering all of the walls.

Jo, you have been a great leader and really brought out the best in all of us. Thank you for being so supportive throughout the year, both inside and outside the office. Your dedication to the yearbook was inspiring and you are going to be amazing at whatever you choose to do in the future.

Sarah, thank you for keeping everything organized. Whether it was putting all the organization papers in folders or sorting all the pens by color, you really helped everything run smoothly. Your poems were inspiring to say the least. I tried writing one for you, but alas, your talent outshone mine.

Natalie, thank you for always making us laugh. The amount of funny quotes that streamed out of your mouth will not soon be forgotten. And next time you want to sew buttons on your shirt, please just let me know and I will help you. I can't wait for the "Dress like your favorite Jimmy John's sandwich" themed-party.

Becky, "put it this way," you have been a great person to work with. I am so grateful for your kindness and for everything you do—especially when you brought in medicine when I was sick. I'm envious of your quick yet accurate editing and I know you will make a great editor in chief of *The Bluestone* next year.

Leslie, thank you for your endless spirit (i.e. Christmas) and for keeping the editorial board under control when it got too boisterous. I can't wait to show people your monster recipe. I know you will be incredibly successful in the future.

Lucy, did it hurt when you fell from heaven? You have been the best producer I could ever ask for. Thank you for writing about a million captions each deadline weekend. Your dedication to the book was shown through your hard work and I greatly appreciate it.

Evan, what would my college experience have been like without you? I can't even imagine. Thank you for being such a supportive boyfriend and best friend. You have the best 10 jokes I have ever heard and your listening skills far surpass any person I have ever met. These past three years have been incredible with you and I appreciate the fact that you always (actually usually) know what to say to keep me laughing.

To the boys of Lambda Chi Alpha, especially the ones living at the house, thank you guys so much for letting me basically live with you this past year. I had some great times and appreciate all you have done to make me feel welcome.

To my friends I met in China and Kenya, I have had some of the most amazing adventures with you all. Thank you for creating so many memories and fantastic experiences.

And last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank my family for endless love and encouragement. Thank you for always believing in me. I am the luckiest person in the world to have such a wonderful family and I look forward to spending time at home this summer.

Colleen Mahoney,  
Supervising Editor



# Colleen's Letter

Closing 375





# Becky's Letter



It seems like yesterday that the ed board girls first met and barely said a word. Six deadlines later, we are done, and we may have learned a little too much about each other. Fortunately, I have gained great friends out of the process. Oh yeah, we created an amazing 400-page book too.

Jo, you should be so proud of this book. You pulled the staff together to create a masterpiece. Thank you for pushing me to do bigger things along the way. You are a hard act to follow, and I think that wherever you end up after graduation, you will be triumphant.

Leslie, you have put so much time and dedication into this book. Your creativity shines. Whenever you think you can not "think outside of the box," I hope you will find inspiration on every page of this book.

Colleen, you are funny, compassionate and hardworking. You have a good head on your shoulders and whatever you choose to do in the future, I am positive that you will be successful. Your doodles always brightened my day.

Lucy, thank you so much for all your hard work and dedication. You saved me from writing dreaded captions and headlines.

Sarah and Natalie, you guys crack me up. I was worried that this past semester would be difficult for me, and you both helped pick me up. I think that you are both great co-workers, but more importantly, friends. With nights at El Charro, or just hanging out, it is never a dull moment. I'm looking forward to seeing what next year will bring!!! (Yes, I'm that excited that I need those exclamation points.)

Kelsey and Kelsey, although our lives have been hectic, and we may not always be close to one another, you both continue to have a very special place in my life. You are sisters to me.

Steve, although you still don't understand what exactly a "deadline" is, thanks for talking to me on breaks and keeping my spirits up. We went into this year hoping for the best and I couldn't be happier with how things have turned out. Our visits mean the world to me, and I couldn't ask for a better boyfriend. I love you.

Mom, I appreciate your pep talks during deadlines. If I was screaming or crying, you were there to calm me down and bring me back to earth. Your strength inspires me. You are my best friend.

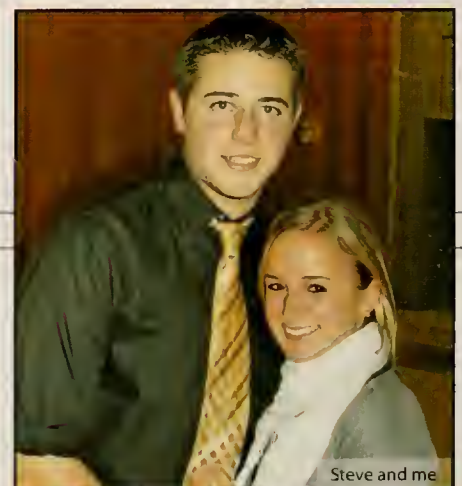
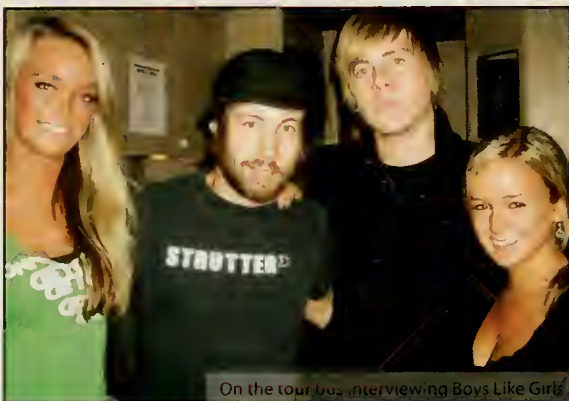
Dad, because of you, I have learned so many life lessons. Whenever things get tough, you pop into my head, telling me to take it one step at a time. I will always be your little girl, and you will always be my daddy.

And to Roop G6, expect an extreme makeover.

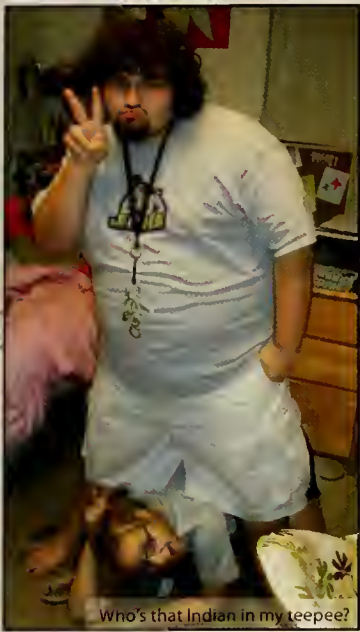
I'm sorry to whomever I haven't mentioned. You have all helped in one way or another, and I am eternally grateful. Love you all.

Until next time. Peace out.

*Rebecca Schneider,*  
Managing Editor







Who's that Indian in my teepee?



Chestnut Burr Lovers plus some



Frankie and me



Patrick, Jillian, Allison and me



Family Rafting Trip



Jillian and me

This was my first year working for *The Bluestone* and it is safe to say that I have never seen more dedication than I have in that little, windowless office. The editors are phenomenal people—never have I felt so welcome and respected so quickly going into something this important. Thank you for taking a chance on me. I've enjoyed every minute of it.

Next I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude towards my family. Mom, you are my rock. Thank you always for pushing me to be myself and reassuring me that is enough in any situation. I love you. Dad, you have always pushed me to do my best and overcome whatever life throws at me; you are my inspiration. And Frankie, you are growing up to be a great person, thank you for keeping me in check; I know that wherever life takes you, good things will follow.

It's hard to believe I have only been here for two years and I am finding myself calling it home more and more, thanks to my friends.

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Lucy Romeo, Producer

# Lucy's Letter

Closing 377





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# Colophon 2009

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# Special Thanks





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